

Sheila Scanlan



Hi all! I'm Sheila. I teach AP/College Environmental Science at Highland High School in Gilbert Arizona. The class I teach can be taken for AP credit or for Dual Enrollment at Chandler Gilbert Community College. I also teach Environmental Biology at Chandler-Community College. Each year I have about 100 students getting college credit while learning about the environment. Many of my students graduate with a new perspective on how to live their life. I also have quite a few who end up at nearby ASU in the Global Institute of Sustainability. Personally, I am trying everything possible to get the message out about climate change. I think, we as teachers, must get the message out to our youth if we want any change to take place. They are open, willing and very concerned! I am hoping this project will help us lead the nation toward more effective climate change education! Best wishes to all as we move forward in this endeavor! Namaste!

By the way, the picture is taken in front of my home where Solar City installed 5.46kW of panels. I'll be renting the panels for less than the cost of fossil fuels :)! and reducing my carbon footprint as well!! If anyone is interested in how it works, I'd be glad to upload pix and explanations.

Recruitment

12.07.10: My focus in on the district. I've included our science curriculum director and our sister schools. After the semester starts, we are going to start up. We have our first meeting on Thursday, and it will be on the teleconferencing technology. I will set up a website to collect climate change lessons. My strategy is to start at the bottom and move our way out.

Reflections

Our first meeting reflection 8/27/10

I was at the small alternate meeting.

In review, first I would say I would have rather been on with all the other participants so I'm hoping we can figure out how to do that next time either at your end or my end.

Second, after the meeting I have a clear idea of the expectations for me as leader. I am primarily going to recruit participants and see how skypeing works among us, have new members fill out an application to be a member of our PLC, organize discussions on climate change education and ultimately establish a PLC where we can begin sharing in general about more than just our topic. The goal is to have our PLCs organized by January 2011.

Another objective is to investigate the use of google docs too.

I am excited to be a part of this group of esteemed colleagues from around the United States doing all sorts of amazing science! As most good teachers I look forward to taking your best ideas and sharing mine in the classroom. :)

October 12, 2010

It was very helpful to touch base at this meeting.

It was much better and way more interesting with 14 people this time vs. the 2 or 3 at my first meeting.

I need to get going on recruitment; establishing an application that includes availability.

It was very helpful to hear what others are doing.

I need to be on the lookout for lesson plans on climate change so that I can share something for next time.

I am looking forward to reviewing Emily's document on expectations for PLC members. The expectations will help me communicate with my members. Could you email that to all of us when its uploaded?

We need to set an agenda and list objectives for the next meeting now

so we can be prepared to snare.

Really liked Jim McDonald's contribution. Thanks for sharing Jim! I plan to spend some time reviewing your link and the information you shared with us.

In general, the teleconference was just ok. I can listen, attend and comprehend better when I am not solely dependent on my auditory skills. Real time visuals, in addition to listening, help me stay better connected to the topic as issues are discussed. I am hoping we could find a conferencing format that is more engaging than just the teleconference.

I have Nov 2 at 3 p.m. AZ time scheduled for our next meeting.

Thanks!