



Legislation and Communications Committee

# Update on Education Programs

Item 6a

April 13, 2026

Presented by: Benita Lynn Horn

# Summary

## Subject

Update on Education Programs

## Purpose

Provide update on educational opportunities for students and teachers including partnerships, teacher institutes, student competitions, and field trips

# Offerings Available for TK - College Students and Teachers

Education Programs

## Overview of Education Programs

Providing educational offerings to Southern California schools for more than 40 years

- Field Trips
- Classroom Presentations
- Curriculum Supplements
- Student Competitions
- Teacher Institutes
- Strategic Partnerships
- Member Agency and Community Events
- Career Days



# Objectives of Education Programs



Igniting Curiosity



Inspiring Stewardship



Empowering Leaders

Inspiring Innovation  
**Water Reuse**  
**Youth**  
**Summit**

A first-time event for high school students to create solutions for public perception, water quality, and engineering challenges associated with water recycling.

@mwdh2o



@wrdsocal

@westbasin

**THE FUTURE**



**WATER REUSE**  
**2026 SYMPOSIUM**  
In Partnership with the Water Research Foundation



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



100 student participants

# Top Three Teams Present at WaterReuse Symposium

In Partnership with The Water Research Foundation

- Lennox Academy
- Oxford Academy
- Downey High School



 **WATERREUSE<sup>®</sup>**  
**2026 SYMPOSIUM**

In Partnership with The Water Research Foundation

Designing Solutions for  
Water Challenges

# WE4G

Water education based in  
science, technology,  
engineering and math  
(STEM).



# WATER ENGINEERING 4 GOOD

Strengthen engineering  
career pathways

Foster innovation via  
sustainability-focused design

Connect students with  
industry professionals

Student-centered  
problem-solving for  
real-world challenges

# Providing Learning Opportunities for Educators

Connecting with Educators

## Teacher Institutes

Providing teachers with hands-on learning and standards-based resources to bring real-world topics into their classrooms.

- Colorado River Aqueduct Inspection Trip for Educators
- California Environmental Education Foundation
- Water Energy Education Alliance School-to-Industry Tours
- Partnerships with Member Agencies
- Project WET and Project WILD



# College Collaboration Driving Real World Impact

Engaging College Students

## College Partnerships and Pando Days Sustainability Competition

Aligning academic learning with capstone projects that tackle real-world water challenges.



# Additional Education Program Highlights



Member Agency and  
Community Events



Student Art



Scout Troops



Classroom Lessons



Coro Youth Fellows



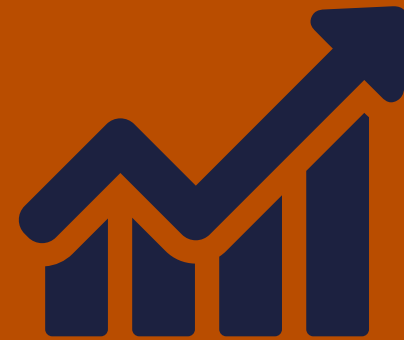
Career Days

# Results: Inspiring Students and Teachers



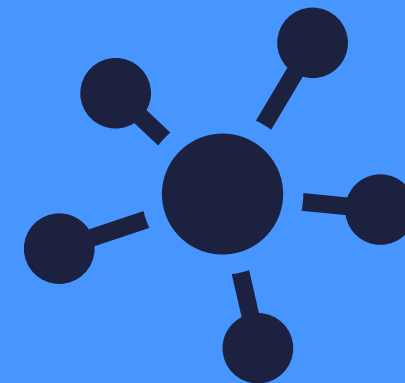
The Education Team continues to collaborate with member agencies and community partners to reach thousands of students annually.

These efforts are designed to inspire students to become environmental leaders, raise awareness of water issues and prepare the next generation of water professionals.



Teacher from Edison Elementary:

“The hands-on activity was fun and reinforced NGSS engineering concepts and project-based learning as they modeled how water systems are designed.”



Professor from Cal Poly Pomona:

“Staff expertise, field trips, and program design provide instructional tools that help students develop into future water and community leaders.”



# Education Team



Benita Lynn Horn

Team Manager



Brian Martz

Public Affairs  
Representative II



Ailene Earl

Senior Public Affairs  
Representative



Omar Urquieta

Senior Public Affairs  
Representative

