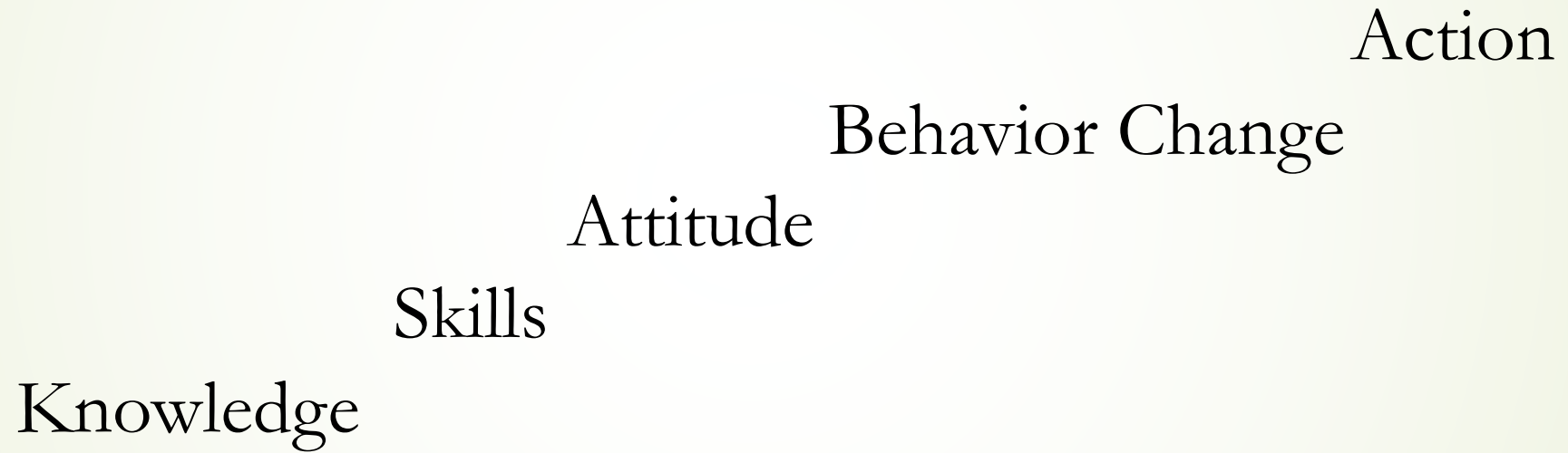




# Maryland Environmental Literacy and Environmental Education Networking

# Literacy





# Environmental Literacy

The work of Rachel Carson (1960, *The New Yorker* and *Silent Spring*, 1962) and many others asked questions and posed thoughtful commentary based upon the impacts of negative environmental events. “We are still making efforts to shift society to a more proactive and positive position instead of a reactive position”.

The first use of Environmental Literacy (Roth, 1968) asked, “How shall we know the environmentally literate citizen?”.

# Environmental Literacy

The most widely accepted meaning of environmental literacy is that it “comprises an awareness of and concern about the environment and its associated problems, as well as the knowledge, skills, and motivations to work toward solutions of current problems and the prevention of new ones” (NAAEE 2004).

# Environmental Literacy in Maryland

1983 (2000, **2014**, 2022) Chesapeake Bay Agreement & **Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement**

2011, Maryland adopted a set of Environmental Literacy Standards, the first State in the Nation to add these standards to K12 curriculum.

2014, **Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement** includes Environmental Literacy as a goal.

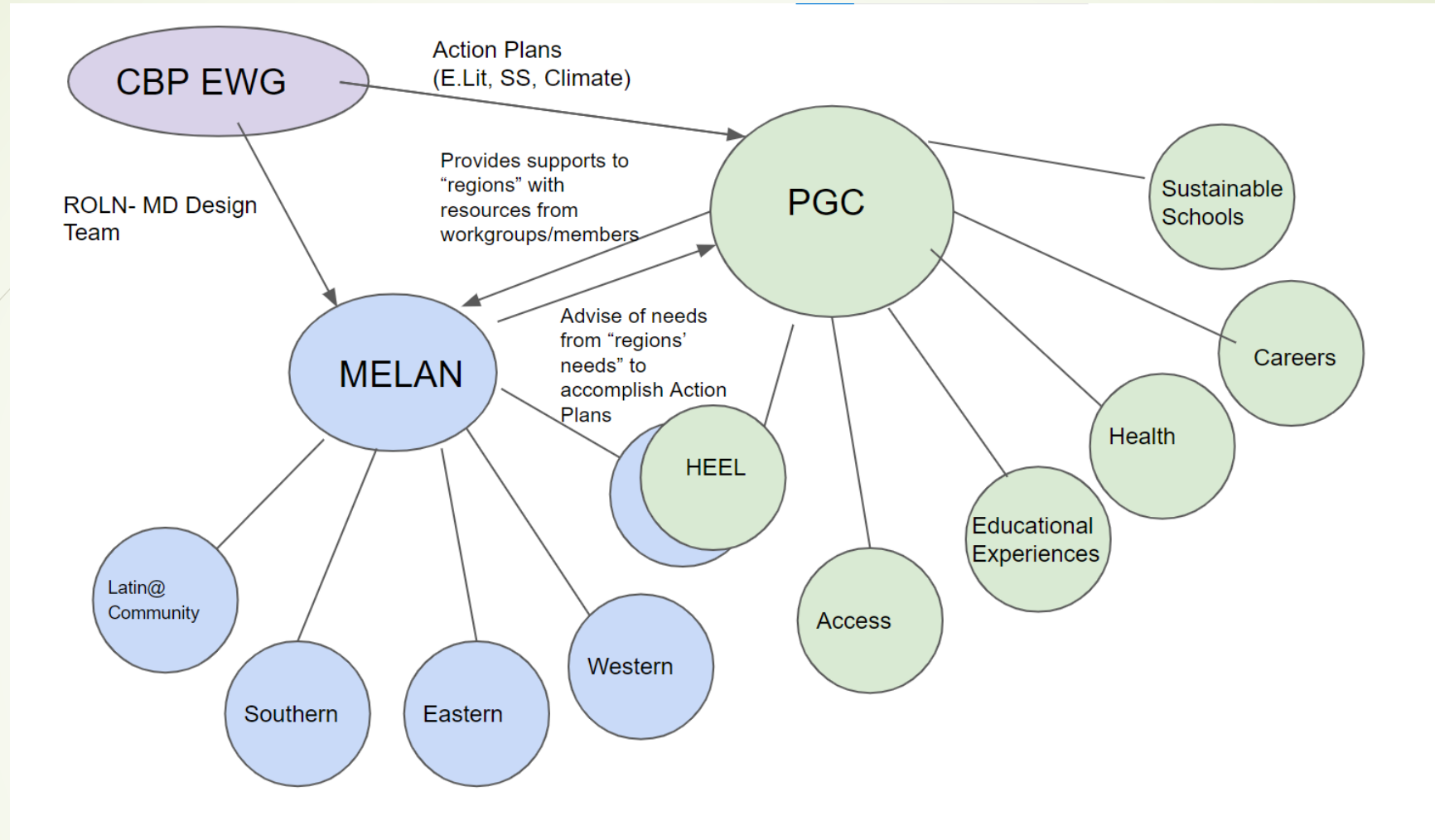
2019, new Environmental Literacy standards agreed upon by Maryland School Board.

# Environmental Literacy in Maryland, Education Standards (2019)

- **Environmental Issue Investigation and Action.**
- **(2) Human Dependence on Earth Systems and Natural Resources.**
- **(3) Environmental Impact of Human Activity.**
- **(4) Consequences of Environmental Change on Human Health and Well-Being.**
- 
- **(5) Individual and Collective Responses to Environmental Change.**

Maryland  
Environmental  
Literacy  
Advisory  
Network  
(MELAN), 2022

MELAN is composed of education (formal and non-formal) professionals that wanted to develop a unified direction for the State of Maryland in support of the Environmental Literacy Goals and to co-create ideas for moving EL to the forefront in Maryland.



## MELAN, Networking and Challenges



# Sea Grant Environmental Literacy Virtual Learning Series

## Session I: Environmental Literacy 101

<https://sites.google.com/umd.edu/sgenelit/home>

### Objectives

- Understand the term literacy, and especially environmental literacy and ocean literacy.
- Help Sea Grant staff and faculty reflect on and enhance their environmental literacy programs for stakeholders.
- Help Sea Grant staff and faculty convey the importance of environmental literacy to their Sea Grant colleagues.

Questions?