Streams of Inspired Thinking--The Confluence of Civic Engagement

Allison DePuy1

¹Inspired Classroom

Inspired Classroom is an interactive distance learning and civic engagement company bringing world class collaborative experiences into the classroom or organization—in real time. We connect the experts and role models with students, educators, and professionals who hunger for authentic learning opportunities.

During this hands-on session educators, researchers and entrepreneurs will come together to experience the IC Challenge Platform as a tool to engage your community in real-world problem solving and critical thinking. You will work in teams to collaborate, research, discuss, and plan relevant immersive projects to take home to your community or school. The platform develops digital literacy skills and provides a forum for you to communicate your decisions about chosen solutions with the group.

Participants will walk through a demonstration problem based on community water issues using this opportunity to become familiar with the platform and the process of problem solving. Additionally, participants will explore different resources available through the IC Challenge platform to help teach the process of problem solving and presenting. We will also share websites and resources outside the platform that other educators find helpful.

At Inspired Classroom we believe that collaboration IGNITES learning and action!

Workshop Objectives

As a participant you will:

- 1. Discuss the importance of problem based learning and civic engagement in the classroom.
- 2. Experiment with the IC Challenge platform as a tool for community and student engagement.
- 3. Collaborate using the IC Challenge platform with local and visiting experts to produce an action plan for teaching problem based, environmental education.