

What could an equitable field of EE look like?

CENTERED AROUND RELATIONSHIPS AND AN INCLUSIVE CULTURE

- Barriers to access and participation are removed
- People value outdoor learning
- New trust has been built with new communities
- We have awareness around the words we use and have replaced words that may cause trauma or not resonate with different audiences
- Teaching moments are used - more student-focused and responsive
- All different ways of connecting with the land are honored
- Educators have a different level of awareness and plans for action to respond to larger systems like poverty and the fear of ICE detaining people
- Teachers feel comfortable and confident bringing classes outside
- Detachment from technology is okay
- Outsiders are not going in to do “outreach”, but rather communities are supported in offering their own opportunities that are relevant to them
- Needs are better defined and addressed and we learn that a “one size fits all model” does not work in education
- People and organizations are willing to innovate and take risks
- People are open to learning about their blindspots and willing to listen
- Native/Indigenous people are not put under one “umbrella”, but rather Native Nations are each recognized and valued for their own uniqueness
- Different perspectives are honored (e.g., what’s a weed to you might be an important medicinal plant to someone else)
- Historical resources are accessible that are not just written from a colonizing perspective
- Leaders model self-catching behaviors when oppression surfaces (example: “This is what I just caught myself and how I adjusted.”)