

# The RISE Challenge Illinois



*The desire to make a difference is  
a powerful incentive to learn*

The young people in our communities are living through a time unlike anything before. In this environment young people are making it clear that they want to make a difference.

**The RISE Challenge is that opportunity.**

Part project-based learning, part competition, and part student summit, the RISE Challenge combines project-based learning with community involvement to engage students in action projects that improve their communities.

## Benefits for Educators

- Free professional development in project-based learning, youth-adult partnerships, and action civics.
- 8 months ongoing support to smooth implementation, even in a virtual setting.
- Connections to a myriad of community resources including floodplain managers and emergency response agencies.
- Community recognition.
- Funds to implement student-driven projects.

## Benefits for Students

- Opportunity to apply their passion to improve their community.
- A sense of self-efficacy to deal with complex problems facing their community.
- Critical and creative thinking skills.
- Recognition from their community for their hard work.
- The skills and knowledge they need to be life-long contributors to their community.

Contact:  
Abbie Enlund, EEAI Executive Director  
executivedirectoreai@gmail.com

The RISE Challenge  
Illinois is a project of:





## PROJECT TIMELINE

### FALL 2020

- Educator Virtual Professional Development – Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>; 3:30pm – 5:00pm each day; must attend both
- Develop implementation plan – **can be in person or virtual**

### WINTER 2020/2021

#### Launch Project

- Collect data on local natural hazards
- Connect with experts
- Connect with stakeholders
- Select issue
- Develop action plan

### SPRING 2021

Develop proposal  
Proposal Due: TBD

**RISE Challenge Student Virtual Summit:** TBD

*"If someone told me that my 6th graders would put together a civic action proposal to solve a community flooding issue ... I don't think I would have believed it to be possible."*

*Your six-step method made it so easy and the kids really engaged and found it fun and meaningful!"*

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## Give Your Students the Chance to Make a Difference

*The most important thing I've learned is how to protect the community by improving the things around us. And that when we get together, we can complete any project."*

