

## Unmuted: The Webinar

December 17, 2020

Link to the recording: <https://youtu.be/eMeE6MLT2tY>

eePRO post: <https://naaee.org/eepro/learning/webinars/eeinspire-webinar-unmuted-webinar>

Speaker: Andy Goodman, The Goodman Center,  
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## Highlights of the chat transcript:

### Welcome!

- Susan Cox: Hi, Susan Cox in New Hampshire
- Bethany Ricks: Hi! Bethany Ricks from Tamarack Nature Center and Minnesota Zoo, Saint Paul, MN
- Julie Read: Hi! Julie Read, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority in London, Ontario
- Britt Slattery: Britt Slattery, Maryland Dept of Natural Resources
- Kelsey McNicholas: Kelsey McNicholas, Atlanta, GA, Georgia Mountains Children's Forest Network, USFS, and Greening Youth Foundation
- Gustavo Requena Santos: Hi there, Gustavo Requena Santos here, calling from CT
- Sandy Marin: Sandy Marin (she/hers), Rockville MD, US Forest Service
- Larissa Johnson: I am so excited Andy Goodman is amazing!!! I attended his presentation about Why Bad Presentation Happen to Good Organizations so I would definitely take a look at that - he is AWESOME!!!
- Laura Downey: Yes, San Diego got me hooked on Andy! So excited!
- Anne Umali, NAAEE: Check out the April 9, Webinar on Webinars on eePRO: <https://naaee.org/eepro/learning/webinars/webinar-webinars>
- Larissa Johnson: I have also heard of that as a chat waterfall...
- Carissa Longo: What do you do if you ask "Is everyone with me? Was that clear?" and NO ONE responds (esp. in a large group).
- Celia Hoffman: @Elizabeth: When we send people away for an offline activity, as presenters we often stay in the main room and tell them that if they have any questions, they can connect with us there.
- Celia Hoffman: @Kathy: The main benefit of keeping people plugged in is that if they have questions, they can easily connect with you. It may also be easier for them to reconnect if they are already signed in. We let them know that at

any point (including during breaks and offline activities) they can turn their cameras off and mute, of course.

- Mariah Leuschen-Lonergan: most often seen acknowledging the ancestral lands one sits or is calling from
- Watson: We use the Q&A feature on our webinars and it's become a good opportunity for when there is a young person on where they can get a lot of their questions answered by a moderator without interrupting the presenter
- Carissa Longo: I wish Zoom would provide an option for live Captioning.
- Mandi Lyon: Adding ASL interpretation, closed captioning. Using a list of participants posted in chat to make sure each participant has opportunity to speak, not just those that always speak up.
- Sarah Ludwig: Land acknowledgements contribute to more inclusive spaces
- Wanda Bryant: Jamboard
- Susan Cox: using padlet for contributing to topic conversations
- Julie Watson: Powerpoint also has cc, but it will pick up anything you say even if you're not broadcasting on zoom :P
- Kelsey McNicholas: For a teen program that met online regularly over a period of months, we had a spotify playlist. More or less, welcome music. Participants all contributed songs beforehand, and heard their songs during the beginning of sessions. It created cute dancing.
- Laura Drath: Kelsey I love that!
- Julie Watson: @Kelsey that's adorable!
- Julie Read: Any tips for engaging elementary students when teaching on a virtual platform when you will be interacting with the whole class only through the teacher's computer (ie the students will not be on their own individual computers)?
- Lauren DuRocher: Inclusivity: Acknowledge that those with kids, pets, etc at home, everyone may not able to or be comfortable with their camera on or to unmute. Allowing for chat or other ways to communicate are always acceptable.
- Celia Hoffman: @Carissa: One thing we'd recommend to make sure folks are still with us is to ask them to answers questions in the chat. Even a yes/no question helps us take the temperature of the room. For instance, we might say: chat Yes if everything is clear and we should move on. Chat no if you still have a lingering question and we'll get to it. That way you are requesting specific action to help you know if they are still with you. Especially in large groups, people often don't tend to speak up but are willing to write something in the chat box.

- Laura Branby: I want ALL presenters to enlarge their cursor when presenting... SO much easier to follow where they're pointing on a screen!
- Carissa Longo: YES! Make your cursor larger!
- Susan Cox: I was surprised how little training teachers got, even after they were done with school in June and had some time to get training. For our summer institute, we ended up showing them how to use zoom and google features they had never been trained in
- Bethany Ricks: I recently heard that encouraging participants to turn off their self-view helps reduce Zoom fatigue (since they're no longer also watching themselves), which is another kind of accessibility. One accessibility challenge for me: if someone is scrolling while sharing their screen, I get motion sick! I've spent a lot of time nauseated in the last year.
- Julie Watson: @Bethany I'm embarrassed to say I don't know how to turn off self-view?
- Celia Hoffman: @Julie: When your video is on, go to the three dots in the corner of your video box. On that menu is an option to turn off self-view.
- Mandi Lyon: Strong agree with the team facilitation approach, as well as doing practice rounds beforehand with each other!
- Maria Parisi: Thanks, this is SO relevant.!
- Mandi Lyon: Zoom has the best video quality of the various platforms we've tested for our live virtual tours (far better than Teams or Google Meet).
- Marian Miller: Does anyone know here to find expertise/advice for teaching students online - particularly on environmental education topics?
- Sara Canuel: RE that elementary students question!! For our middle and high school students we use toolkits so they can work on the activity physically so it gives them the opportunity to work with their hands!
- Julie Watson: @Marian California State Parks PORTS program is a good place to start. Brad Krey is really an expert.
- Tammy Schwab: Teams has breakout rooms as of last week
- Betsy Ukeritis: BEETLES from LawHall of Sci also has great resources for teaching online <http://beetlesproject.org/>  
<http://beetlesproject.org/principles-for-distance-learning/>
- Anne Umali, NAAEE: My eye doc tells me to rest my eyes away from screens every 20 min, focus at least 20 feet away, & blink 20 times. I'll be needing reading glasses soon :)
- Betsy Ukeritis: Totally correct Anne.... and blue-light blocking glasses are such the help

- Kelsey McNicholas: Didn't hear the full question about teens, but think it was about engagement? If so, on-screen journal/drawing reflection time has been really effective, esp with whole group optional sharing (calling on individuals.)
- Yasmeen Hossain: Good advice from you eye doc Anne! I need to build that into my day too. Too much screen time!
- Kathy Yates: Schools are finding that having your screen on is an issue of equity - students don't want people to see into their homes
- Susan Cox: I like in adobe connect you have pause your video. So people can see you but you're not live
- Betsy Ukeritis: @Katy Yates ... students should never be made to have their videos on
- Mandi Lyon: We've found in our programs that we have to defer to the teacher about that (student videos on or off) - they often use videos-on as a wellness/participation check.
- Mandi Lyon: Wouldn't NOT reading a slide be an accessibility issue, if there are any participants who can't see or read them? I would think a text reader wouldn't work on a zoom-shared slide.
- Celia Hoffman: @Tanya: Often we'll have the slides we're presenting and then slides that we send as handouts with a lot more text. Or in some cases, we've printed out the text heavy slides as notes for ourselves. So we're not using two screens—but we do have one set printed out that we're referring to.
- Celia Hoffman: @Mandi: Yes, it's can definitely be an accessibility issue to not read slides. It's very important to know what your participants need—are they able to see/access visuals or not. If not, it would be important to send slides in advance or read them.
- Gustavo Requena Santos: I imagine most (or all) takeaways are based on adults as audience. Any insights when teaching or interacting with children over web meetings / virtual classrooms?
- Celia Hoffman: @Gustavo: Yes, these suggestions are definitely best practices for adults. Unfortunately, we don't have a lot of guidance for children. If others here today have specific tips for teaching children over Zoom, please feel free to chat them here!
- Wendy Kedzierski: broadband internet needs to be seen as a utility like electricity and natural gas in our "new world"
- James Murdock: Do speed test next to router, then at your desk. If there is a big difference, fix the WiFi, not the service!
- Kerry Wixted: Any resources relating to recording? We're being discouraged from recording webinars and providing them to people afterwards.

- Celia Hoffman: @Kate: If everyone knows that there are folks joining in over the phone, hopefully they understand why you are reading the slides and won't feel insulted
- Julie Read: I haven't had the opportunity to teach students remotely yet, but I will be early next year, so I'm doing lots of planning. I've heard that having the students make physical signs that they can hold up that say things like "yes", "no" or have a thumbs up or other symbols drawn on them, can help engage students more. Along with offering frequent body breaks, doing lots of pop quizzes and polls, using short interactive games (ex. "Two Truths and a Lie") throughout
- Dennis Clement: This was awesome! Thank you. I am energized now to set-up my webinars.
- Judy Kingsbury: Thanks for this presentation.
- Kathy Yates: So helpful! Thank you.
- Julie Watson: This was awesome thank you!
- Nancy Caplan: Thank you!
- Mandi Lyon: Thank you!!
- Catherine Griffin: Thank you!
- Laura Branby: Thank you!!
- Marci Mowery: Thank you!
- EMILY VAN LAAN: Thank you so much! This was wonderful.
- Kelsey McNicholas: This was wonderful, THANK YOU!!
- Laura Downey: Super helpful, thank you Andy, NAAEE and USFS!!!
- Jessica Stewart: Thank you! This was much-needed and so helpful!
- Kerry Wixted: Thank you!
- Annette Heckart: Thank you!
- Letha Grimes: Thank you
- T'Noya Thompson: Wonderful! Thank you!
- Julie Read: Thanks!
- James Murdock: ^A in chat window selects all messages for copying.
- Maria Parisi: This was Excellent!
- Cindy Wilems: I appreciate it if the presenters expect cameras to be on to tell us in advance when we register for the event so I know what to expect
- Carissa Longo: Does Zoom still only offer live captioning if you either have a speedy typist on staff or pay a captioning company which can get very pricey.
- Anne Umali, NAAEE: We use Caption Access
- Carissa Longo: We can't afford that. I really hope Zoom offers something soon.
- Celia Hoffman: [Andy@thegoodmancenter.com](mailto:Andy@thegoodmancenter.com)

- James Murdock: Thank you, very generous to provide this to people like me.
- Bethany Ricks: Thank you!
- Stephanie Hummel: Thank you!
- Laura Downey: Thanks all!
- Maria Parisi: Thanks, bye everyone!