

Kirstin Bullington

Science Champion



SUBJECT, SCHOOL

Next Energy and Fuel Cell Engineering Teacher at Richland Two Institute of Innovation (R2I2)



CITY, STATE

Columbia, South Carolina



PROGRAM

Teachers for Global Classrooms Program



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Prior to participating in the Teachers for Global Classrooms (TGC) Program in 2014 Kirstin struggled with how to globalize her science classrooms in Columbia, South Carolina. After completing the program and focusing on the “taking action” component of global competence, Kirstin encouraged her students to collaborate with others around the world to tackle issues of global energy disparity. Kirstin continues to build her classes around addressing the engineering problems the world faces through a global lens, and engaging her students through problem-based learning. After connecting with local secondary school teachers during the International Field Experience component of TGC, Kirstin worked to continue the partnerships back in the United States. Her students currently collaborate with peers in Senegal to work on improving solar batteries and chargers in Kolda, in rural southern Senegal, and home to students and teachers from various ethnic and religious backgrounds.

“When I started to use project-based learning, my students became more engaged in the lessons, and I realized I didn’t have to fit global issues into engineering curriculum; but rather, I can reinvent the curriculum so we are finding ways to address global issues using engineering skills and knowledge.”

—Kirstin

