



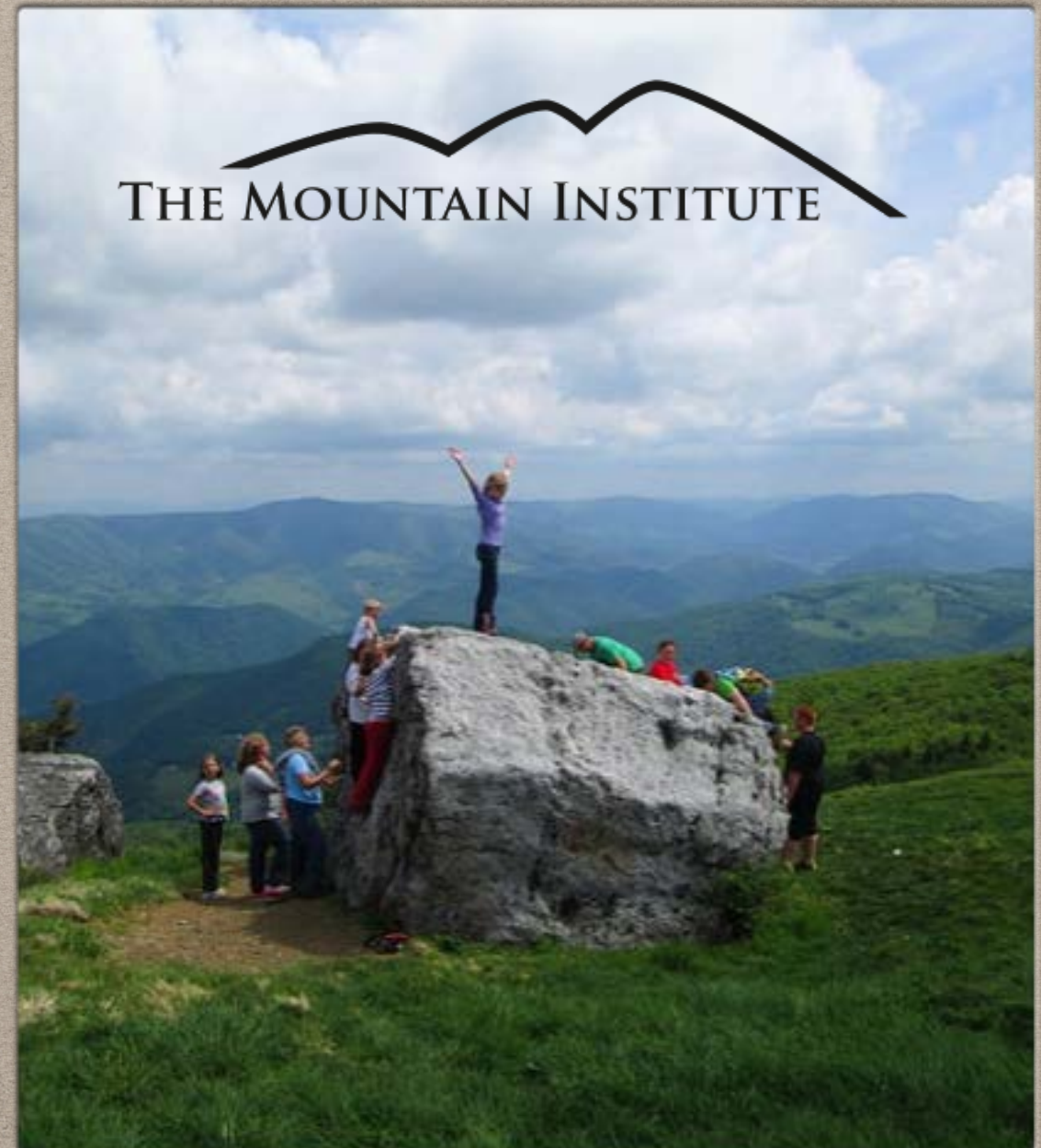
BEST PRACTICES CASE STUDY:
WYOMING COUNTY SCHOOLS
WEST VIRGINIA

2015 MID-ATLANTIC ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY SUMMIT

WV SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS

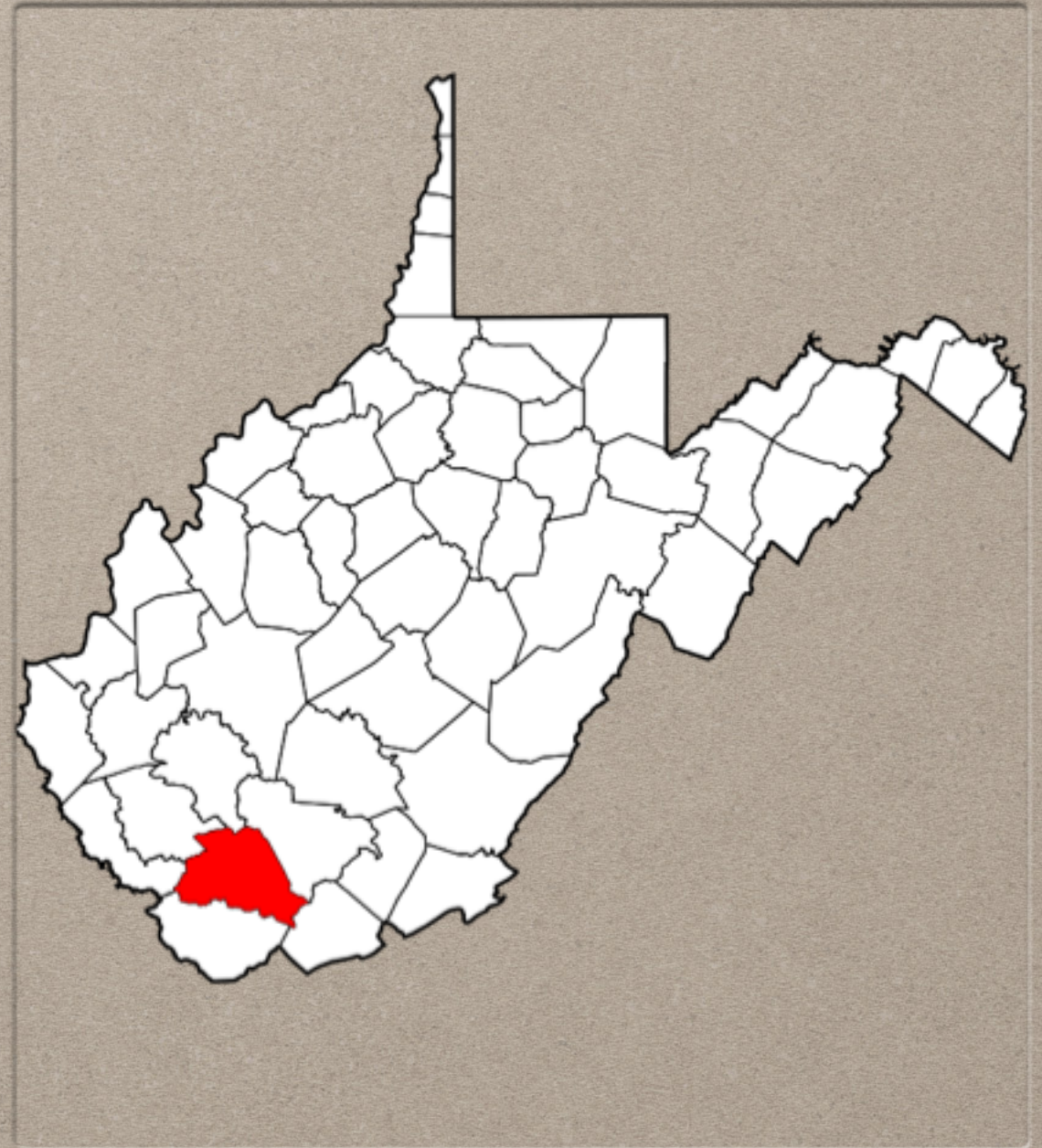
THE MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

- WV Sustainable Schools is a program of the WVDE
- Co-director of WVSS Advisory Committee since its inception in 2011
- 16 years in environment-based education, program design, and program management



WYOMING COUNTY SCHOOLS

- 1400 students
- 14 schools
- Rural
- All schools have more than 40% low income students
- In the heart of the southern coalfields



ENERGY SAVINGS

Since 2004

- 578,748 MBTUs
 - 94,358 metric tons of CO₂
 - \$3,300,000
-
- \$0.94 per square foot; national average is \$2
 - Produce more than 10,000 kW per year



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Eight Energy Star schools;
US Environmental
Protection Agency
- US Green Ribbon School -
Wyoming County Career
and Technical Center; US
Department of Education
- 2010 Clean Energy Award;
WV Department of
Environmental Protection



THE JOURNEY

- Started focusing on cost saving in mid 1980s and continued in the 1990s with school closures
- Progressive superintendent and board of education
- Focused on energy upgrades and behavioral changes in 2003; within two years we were showing a 25% reduction in costs
- Used grant funds through School Building Authority; rebates through energy companies
- Performance contracts funded lighting upgrades in all school and HVAC systems in three schools
- Between 2008 and 2010, CTC students build 8.4 kW solar array
- Provided teacher training for NEED program

LOOKING BACK

Success:

- Commitment of superintendent and board of education
- Focus on saving money WHILE making the buildings healthy spaces

Advice:

- Engage teachers, students, and community to be part of the solution