



2014.01.24 Science Update

Work of the Regional Science Coordinators/LASER this year:

- Building district and regional capacity for the transition to the Next Generation Science Standards.
- Improving students' ability to engage in the engineering design process which will support success on the "application" strands of the 5th and 8th grade MSP and pave the way for the increased focus on engineering practices required by the NGSS.
- Equity of access to science for all students and strategies to support non-dominant sub-groups.
- Supporting STEM implementation efforts in districts.
- Supporting Biology EOC and COE work in districts.

How Northwest ESD can support districts:

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) adoption and transition:

- **Regional Science Leadership Team (RSLT):** Two science leaders from each district participate in the three day Leadership network. Regional Science Leaders will build their own understanding of the Next Generation Science Standards in order to inform planning, professional development and implementation in their districts. They will provide district perspectives on state and regional NGSS implementation and support plans. Their expertise is a great resource to inform colleagues and engage them in professional learning around NGSS.
 - April 16, 2014 is the last scheduled session.
 - NGSS Standards and Appendices: The set can be ordered through NWESD for \$28. To order, contact Nancy Menard, nmenard@nwesd.org. Questions about the set, contact Brian MacNevin, bmacnevin@nwesd.org or Joanne Johnson, jjohnson@nwesd.org.
- Focusing on developing some science and engineering practices or some cross cutting concepts.

Engineering, Application and Assessment Support:

Application Series: Supporting Student Success in Engineering and Technological Design

In this three part series, 5th and 8th grade teachers will engage in a collection and study of MSP-like student growth measures in order to:

- Understand the technological design process as described in the WA standards and the NGSS
- Understand the student expectations for engineering design standards/item specifications
- Understand application item types as assessed on the MSP
- Apply their understanding of the applications/engineering in the classroom in their own context

Feb 25th is the last scheduled date.

Science Materials Center Cooperative:

The SMC is not comfortably housed on the Marysville-Pilchuck High School campus. We have tripled our space and are adding services for the Marysville SD to our operations. Our cooperative Advisory Group will meet today to develop input for the NW LASER Alliance team to take in December. It is clear that thinking regionally about transitions will be import to not only the operations at the Center, but to the member districts. For more information, contact Joanne Johnson, jjohnson@nwesd.org, 360-299-4046.

Please contact me for:

- Professional development in content knowledge and science standards.**
- Support for teachers, coaches, teacher-leaders and principals to promote student learning of worthwhile science.**