

Science Update:

Work of the Regional Science Coordinators/LASER this year:

- Transitioning to the Next Generation Science Standards
- Supporting the integration of NGSS Science and Engineering Practices and CCSS ELA Standards through a focus on scientific argument and claims-evidence-reasoning frameworks
- 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 the ESD can support districts:

Next Generation Science Standards adoption and transition:

Science Advocates Regional Leadership Network: 2 science leaders from each district participate in the Leadership network. Science advocates will build their own understanding of the Next Generation Science Standards in order to inform planning, professional development and implementation in their districts and will also provide district perspectives on state and regional NGSS implementation and support plans. I will be in touch in the upcoming weeks to confirm the names of your participating leaders.

This year's dates: December 17th, February 12th, April 10th

Awareness workshops: Look for regional NGSS awareness workshops this winter.

Instructional Materials Transition: NWESD will provide technical assistance and regional leadership for a transition of science instructional materials beginning this winter and spring.

CCSS integration:

District Sponsored Professional Learning: We can work with you to support science/CCSS integration during your professional learning days.

Claims-Evidence-Reasoning workshops: Look for professional learning opportunities this spring.

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

Dates: December 3rd, January 14th and Feb 25th. Look for a reminder about registration soon.