

## OpenSciEd Field Test: Opportunities and Expectations

### Introduction

Your district is invited to identify teachers to field test a new set of instructional materials for middle school science. This field test is part of an effort called OpenSciEd, in which a group of state education agencies, working with school districts, classroom educators, experienced science curriculum developers, and the science education community are creating research-based, open-source science instructional materials that align to standards based on “*A Framework for K-12 Science Education*”, consistent with Washington State Science Learning Standards.

The long term vision of OpenSciEd is to:

- Ensure any science teacher can access and download free *standards*-aligned instructional materials.
- Support districts and schools providing professional learning for science teachers and leaders around quality instructional materials.
- Provide space for states and districts to work with other organizations to collaborate on innovative approaches to professional learning for science teachers and leaders.

### Benefits to participating teachers and students

All participating teachers:

- Will receive classroom sets of full-color, print student materials for the two units at no cost for implementation and to keep as their own after the field test.
- Will be provided with material kits to support teaching of the units.
- Will have opportunities for professional development to support use of the instructional materials and deepen their knowledge of instructional shifts needed to realize the vision of the *Framework* for equitable teaching and learning.
- Will have the opportunity to provide feedback to the developers to inform revisions to improve the materials.

All students will:

- Experience meaningful and engaging science teaching organized around the investigation of natural phenomena.
- Use the science and engineering practices, cross-cutting concepts, and disciplinary core ideas together to help students develop deep conceptual understanding and progress toward mastery of key ideas in science.
- Will have the opportunity to provide feedback to the developers to inform revisions to improve the materials.

## **Expectations of district staff, principals, and teachers**

OpenSciEd will maintain open lines of communication with participating district and school staff so that they understand the expectations of the field test. All participants must commit to fulfilling the expectations summarized below in order to be included in the field test.

District Staff will:

- Support data collection, ensuring all data collection policies are followed.

Teachers will:

- Participate in all professional learning experiences
  - **Summer professional development:** Four days of professional development delivered at Hayes Freedom High School, 1919 NE Lone St, Camas, WA 98607 August 6-9<sup>th</sup> (travel and stipend expenses provided through your ESD)
  - **Winter professional development:** Two days of professional development delivered (substitute and travel expenses provided through your ESD) Location and dates TBD
  - **Virtual professional development:** Two interactive, online professional learning sessions in both the Fall and Winter.
- Implement two units as designed
  - Each unit is designed to take 4-6 weeks to implement, and addresses between 3 and 5 performance expectations (standards).
- Provide feedback through three of the five methods below, based on a sampling plan, for an estimated time commitment of no more than 3 hours across both units.
  - **Surveys:** Surveys will be used to gather feedback on each unit.
  - **Interviews:** Interviews will be conducted at the end of each unit on teacher perceptions of the curriculum and specific opportunities for improvements.
  - **Instructional Logs:** Instructional logs will be completed to get a quick “pulse” on parts of a unit that have been completed over time.
  - **Student Work Samples:** Samples of student work will be gathered at the beginning and end of each unit.
  - **Student Exit Tickets:** Students will complete exit tickets at the end of specific lessons to understand students perception of and engagement with the units.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to participate in OpenSciEd.