

## Minutes

NWESD Science Materials Center Cooperative

May 12, 2015

10:30 a.m. – 12 noon

NWESD SMC, Marsyville-Pilchuck HS, Marysville, WA

### In attendance:

Bridget Rossman	Mt Baker SD
Gwen Garrett	Mt Baker SD
Peggy Webb	Lakewood SD
Lisa Taylor	Ferndale SD
Mike Schweigert	Sedro-Woolley SD
Teresa Haugstad	Stanwood SD
Joni Swanson	Mount Vernon SD
Susie Gaudette	Mount Vernon SD
Tracy Dabbs	Burlington-Edison SD
Kelly Spears	SMC NWESD189
Joanne Johnson	NWESD189
Brian MacNevin	NWESD189

**SMC Operations Update:** Kelly shared organizational changes at the SMC inspired by a State Nuts and Bolts meeting. Kelly requested the use of \$1000 of the “kit box” funds for internal organization for shelves. Motion was made and seconded to provide those funds and discontinue the collection of “kit box funds” after the next billing cycle. The fund will at that point be sufficient to replace all “kit boxes” for those kits we anticipate keeping after the transition to NGSS materials.

**SMC Collaborative Work:** Joanne Johnson and Brian MacNevin shared the collaborative work done by ESDs 112, 114, 101 and 189 to create guides to go with existing kit materials to support teachers in the use of the NGSS cross-cutting concepts and science and engineering practices. Attached to these minutes are:

1. List of kits selected and completed 2014/15 school year ([link](#))
2. Sample guide created (FOSS Structures of Life) ([link](#))

Additional support structures will reside on a wiki server at ESD114 and will include links to NGSS resource, an instructional webinar, and teacher comments and experiences using the guides, kits and NGSS. Support materials are expected to be available at the end of July 2015. SMC member districts will have access to all the materials created in this collaborative effort and notification and links to the work will be sent upon completion. SMC Cooperative members decided each district will disseminate this new information individually. NWESD staff will be available to provide professional development around these materials if requested.

SMC Cooperative members requested the work continue with any of the remaining kit titles that are anticipated to survive the transition to NGSS. Joanne committed to following up with her ESD colleagues to determine those kits and to recruiting teachers for the 2015/16 school year to do this work.

**Update Regional Science Coordinator:** Brian MacNevin provided an update on the WA State Transition to NGSS. The publishers' criteria has been provided in draft form to publishers, but not yet released to the public. No new materials aligned to NGSS are expected for another two years. Next year's work will be the continuation of instructional practice in the cross-cutting concepts and science and engineering practices, as well as beginning to look at disciplinary core ideas and where they might fit in current grade level science instruction. Brian reminded Cooperative members that he is available to assist with NGSS in our districts. He can be reached at [bmacnevin@nwesd.org](mailto:bmacnevin@nwesd.org) or 360.299.4716.

**District Sharing:** The following districts shared their thinking around NGSS.

- **Burlington-Edison** is embarking on a complete re-write of science instruction in the elementary grades. Teacher teams will create a "kit" to remain in the grade for the duration of the school year. Next year they will use current science kits and begin the work, with the goal of transitioning in the fall of the 2016/17 school year to a new curriculum.
- **Mount Vernon** has been working with teacher leaders in each elementary grade to incorporate strategically chosen cross-cutting concepts and science and engineering practices into their current kit use. The NWESD SMC has supported their work and they have made a few adjustments of kits by grade level and created a few new kits for teacher use.
- **Mount Baker SD** has recently joined the Cooperative and now has a Curriculum Director. They are re-addressing the teaching of science in their elementary grades.

*Adjourn at 12:05 p.m.*