

OCM BOCES Science Center Overview of the Standards Setting Process

Reforming the NYS Science Standards

New York state has joined this multi-state initiative as a lead partner. As a lead partner NYS will have a leadership role in the development/review of the standards and has agreed to seriously consider adopting them in their final form as presented.

THE PROCESS

Step One: Getting the Science Right – A Framework

The National Research Council (NRC), the staff arm of the *National Academy of Sciences*, began this process by developing the *Framework for K–12 Science Education*. The Framework was a critical first step because it is grounded in the most current research on science and science learning and identified the science all K–12 students should know. A public draft was released in July of 2010. The NRC reviewed comments and considered all feedback prior to releasing the final Framework on July 19, 2011.

View the Framework for K-12 Science Education document at

http://www7.nationalacademies.org/bose/Standards_Framework_Homepage.html



Step Two: Developing Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

In this process, the goal is the development of K–12 science standards based on the Framework to prepare students for college and careers. The standards will be rich in content and practice, arranged in a coherent manner across disciplines and grades to provide all students an internationally-benchmarked science education. The NGSS will be developed collaboratively with states and other stakeholders in science, science education, higher education and industry.

For information of the Next Generation Science Standards go to <http://www.nextgenscience.org/>



Step Two - Current Phase: Standards Development Is Underway

Achieve is managing a state-led process to develop next-generation science standards, based on the NRC' recently-released Conceptual Framework for Science Education. The next-generation science standards will be faithful to the NRC Framework, internationally benchmarked, and rigorous. Achieve is an independent, bi-partisan, non-profit education reform organization.



Drafts of the science standards have been made available for public input twice during the NGSS development process. **The NGSS should be completed by the end of March 2013.**

For additional information on Achieve go to <http://www.achieve.org/about-achieve>

New York State

New York State Education Department has formed a statewide leadership team to review the drafts of the national writing teams and provide feedback. Once the final version of the NGSS is released, NYSED will decide whether to adopt the new standards as written.



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The Science Center coordinated a video conference, October 2011, with key members of NYSED whom are involved with Science Education. District Science Leaders were able to listen to and ask questions of these individuals. Currently, we are “making observations” of the Framework document, creating a program model based upon the key components and setting up hypotheses as to how the “Next Generation Science Standards” will impact our current curriculum.