

K-12 Science Task Force
2008-2009 Planning Input

October 2008

Parent/Community Forum: World Café to gather input that will influence programmatic goals

Group #1 Feedback

Volunteer Participants:

Vicki Horton
Barbara Soots
Michael Jansen
Holly Davies

Points to Consider:

- Define ultimate purpose
 - Harvest feedback/input from community? If so what feedback specifically would be most helpful?
 - Relay information about task force goals and objectives and current/future school science activities?
 - PR - document inclusion of all stakeholders in process?
- Publicity to advertise event/invite people is critical (newspaper, school notices)
- Choose timing of event carefully – Tuesday or Thursday would be best
- Incentives to attend – Coffee ;)
- Format
 - **Option 1: straight World Café format** - People could come and go at will during a specified time frame. Tables with various discussion topics/materials of interest would be setup.
 - **Option 2: hybrid World Café format** - Short welcome address/lecture to place event in context (event purpose, goals, importance of science literacy, etc.) followed by open time to move through tables/discussions of interest.
 - Both options would require a representative at each station to record comments and compile feedback.
 - Potential Areas of Interest
 - What is inquiry?
 - What are FOSS kits?
 - Comment on Task Force Documents

Group #2

Volunteer Participants:

Lisa Dennis-Perez
Carol Serdar
Charleen Hayes

Group #3

Volunteer Participants:

Marie Neely
Jenny Holmeide

Points to Consider:

- What kind of accommodations will be made for SpEd students?
- WASL – our curriculum for students
- Nature of science? State of science in OSD.

November 2008

Scientific Community Forum: World Café or other forum to gather input that will influence programmatic goals and to determine how the scientific community can support science education in OSD

Group #1 Feedback:

Volunteer Participants:

Vicki Horton
Mike Cimino
Holly Davies

Points to Consider:

- Merge event with Higher Education Forum (see below)

Group #2 Feedback:

Volunteer Participants:

Lisa Dennis-Perez
Carol Serdar
Judy Henry
Chris Sogn

Points to Consider:

- Send email to teacher querying what information and contacts they're interested in within the science community
- Get feedback re: Environmental Guide (E3)
- Need information about Education Internships
- Invite engineering, ecology, and chemistry folks
- Invite OSPI to this

Group #3 Feedback:

Volunteer Participants:

Linda Nelson
Monica West
Jennifer Varano

Points to Consider:

- HS – research projects or internships
- Field trips for students?
- Community supporters? Wilcox? Tree planting?

January 2009

Higher Education Forum: Undetermined protocol to gather information on patterns and trends in incoming students' science education noted by local institutions of higher education and to share what school districts (OSD) would like to see in new science teachers.

Group #1 Feedback:

Volunteer Participants:

Vicki Horton

Barbara Soots

Points to Consider:

- Greater response might be attained by the use of an online survey rather than Café Forum for both the academic and industry scientific communities (SurveyMonkey). Based on collected data, follow up interviews or focus groups could be arranged to solicit additional information.
- Also consider surveying High School, Middle School, and Elementary teachers to determine patterns from incoming students (desired skill sets, content areas that should be covered)
- Who would write questions?
- Is a database of email addresses available to distribute such a survey?
- Perhaps recruitment of responders/focus group subjects is best achieved through personal connections.

Group #2 Feedback:

Volunteer Participants:

Linda Smith

Judy Henry

Points to Consider:

- New teachers – emphasis should be on ES teachers since MS and HS teachers already have science majors.
- Let's be sure to invite more than Evergreen. Include St. Martins, Bates, Clover Park.
- Let's invite OSPI to hear what these folks say.

Group #3 Feedback:

Volunteer Participants:

Brian Wright

Julie McDougall

Points to Consider:

- Methods courses – increase for all.
- Science Ed. for teachers - college.
- What do students need for college? Content? Lab skills?

February 2009 (will adjust as needed based on OSPI timeline) K-12 Task Force

*Develop an **OSD K-12 scope and sequence** for core science classes based on the new standards. Attend/provide training to all teachers of science on the new standards.*

Group #1 Feedback:

Points to Consider:

- What does training look like?
 - Sharing best practices session
 - How to implement new standards – case examples
 - Inquiry based training involving new standards
 - Overview of flow of concepts through grade levels
- Explore potential of including Middle School and Elementary School teachers in High School training events. Could HS teachers act as peer coaches for lower levels?
- Be sure to remain flexible about training goals until new standards are released and an effective plan can be constructed.

Group #2:

Volunteer Participants:

Chris Sogn
Carol Serdar
Judy Henry
Tom Groenewal

Group #3:

Volunteer Participants:

Brian Wright
Julie McDougall
Linda Nelson
Monica West
Jennifer Varano
Marie Neely
Jenny Holmeid

June 2009 (will adjust as needed based on OSPI timeline)

Use the list of aligned instructional materials provided by OSPI to order examination copies for fall review. (Debbi will do this.)

Other :

What could a system look like where all K-12 science teachers receive professional development on inquiry?

Group #1:

- Understand what inquiry is
- Learn how to scaffold inquiry process – perhaps partner with higher education teacher education programs to find speakers
- Consider running the same lab twice – once in “traditional” style, then again utilizing inquiry techniques – analyze differences, discuss pros and cons of each method

Group #2:

- Look at focusing on elementary teachers
- How to match inquiry experiences to content goal
- Winning with inquiry at Evergreen (Chris Sogn)
- 1 day workshop with breakout sessions – maybe October or March
 - Elementary/Middle – October
 - High School – March
- Maybe support from vendor of textbooks
- Teach teachers to apply inquiry with science
- Check with State agencies for teacher training in inquiry
- [Also address tying science to language arts blocks. Differentiate between technical reading and literature.]

Group #3:

- Book study groups (K-3) teachers – look at inquiries
- Develop a specialist at ES