NGSS NOW

6 things to know about quality K–12 science education in November 2024

1 New STEM Teaching Tool: Elevating the cultural wealth of multilingual students, families, and communities in climate justice education

"As the number of multilingual learners grows in the coming decades, it is crucial that educators elevate their and their communities' climate experiences and expertise—which may be connected with climate migration or environmental displacement—in learning experiences."

See the Practice Brief here.

2 What Is "Systems Change" and How Can It Enhance Equity in STEM?

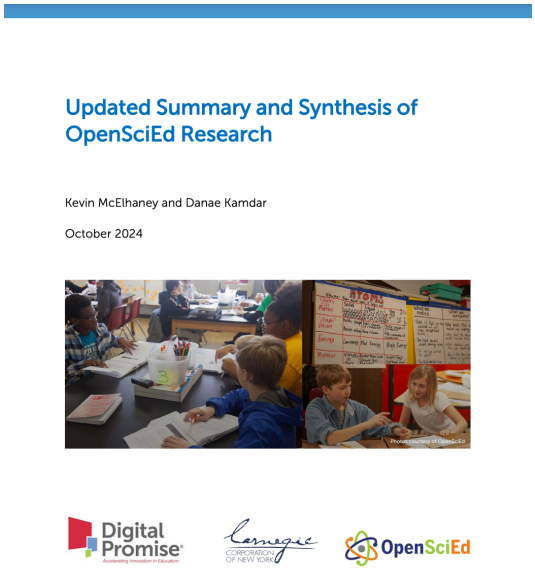
This blog post explores the need for systems change to improve STEM education opportunities for all students. In addition to outlining what this change looks like in the context of STEM education, it also shares potential funding sources to support this work.

See the WestEd blog post here.

3 Lessons Learned from HQIM Implementation: A Summary and Synthesis of Research

Digital Promise released an updated summary and synthesis of research related to the use of high-quality instructional materials, such as models for teacher adaptation of the materials. The authors also identify overall lessons learned, including the positive impact of a storyline-based instructional model on student engagement, collaboration, sense-making, and classroom culture.

See the Digital Promise research summary here.


Updated Summary and Synthesis of OpenSciEd Research

Kevin McElhaney and Danae Kamdar

October 2024

Digital Promise · Carnegie Corporation of New York · OpenSciEd

4 Redesigning High School: 10 Features for Success

The Learning Policy Institute released a paper outlining several approaches to enable more powerful learning in high schools. Many of the features, including student-centered pedagogy and authentic assessment, are well-suited to the instructional shifts reflected in today's science standards.

See the Learning Policy Institute paper here.

5 The Art and Science of Curriculum-Based Professional Learning

"Over the past five years, we've found that curriculum-based professional learning is sometimes misunderstood as an effort to script teachers' every move or to decrease teachers' agency to address diverse student needs. In practice, curriculum-based professional learning is a way of supporting educators' deep understanding of curriculum and ability to apply it with both integrity and responsiveness to students. It helps teachers hone the artistry and science of excellent instruction that leads to rigorous and equitable learning."

See the Learning Forward Journal article here.

6 ICYMI: NGSS Design Badge Units

The NGSS Design Badge provides an easy way for educators to be assured that a unit — whether found online for free or purchased from a publisher — is designed for the NGSS. Each unit that has earned an NGSS Design Badge showcases the features of high-quality design for today's science standards.

See the list of units that have earned the NGSS Design Badge here.

NextGen Science WestEd

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