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From the President ...

Happy Fall science teachers,

SECO is proud to offer two ways to get involved in science education. First, SECO has partnered with ODE to provide regional professional development on the new science standards and Model Curriculum. These offerings are in addition to those provided by the ESCs, mentioned on page 3. Please see below for additional information.

In addition to participating in PD offerings, we would like to invite you to nominate yourself or a colleague to join the SECO Board of Directors. This year we are looking for district directors for each of our 10 regional districts, as well as someone to fill the position of President Elect. You can find out more information on the "Get Involved" section of the SECO website. You can also contact Janet Struble, Past President, with any questions. at janet.struble@utoledo.edu

I hope your new school year has started off smoothly!

Sincerely,

Tracy Cindric,

SECO President 2011

Join Ohio teachers of science in an exciting new professional development series to learn how to use the Model Curriculum to increase student achievement.

Regional events, developed in conjunction with ODE, held in October and November will:

- provide an overview of what the Model Curriculum contains
- promote examples of inquiry-based instruction
- allow participants time to discover the features and benefits of the Model Curriculum

Sessions are offered FREE to all teachers of science. Graduate credit will be available for participants attending several sessions over the 2011-2012 school year. Sessions can be a combination of regional face to face events through SECO and ESCs, webinars, and posts to an online community.

Please go to www.secoonline.org for additional information and to register.

The SECO Communiqué is for science educators -- filled with fun science resources, science education news, teaching tips, and more. If you've got an idea for something you'd like to see in a Communiqué, we'd love to hear from you! Send your ideas to SECOonline00@gmail.com.

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ODE Update

The Revised Science Education Standards and Model Curriculum contain valuable information to help in developing your instruction for this year. It is important to understand that the strategies, resources, and classroom examples in the “Visions into Practice” section of the Model Curriculum are NOT mandated or mandatory. These are all idea starters for teachers to begin to create their own lessons and projects. Different ways to use real-world data and investigations to teach the content are included in this section. The cognitive levels represented by the Expectations for Learning focus on the depth of knowledge for the content. The Model Curriculum is a dynamic document that will continue to be revised and updated with classroom examples and strategies. It is ODE’s recommendation that teachers start implementing the sections of the Model Curriculum that address content that is assessed in the current assessment system. While implementing the Model Curriculum, please share your thoughts, discoveries, concerns and ideas for improvement dealing with your experiences. For now document your comments so that they can be shared with ODE when we complete our feedback mechanism for the Web.

Comparative Analysis of the Revised Content Standards for Science Grades K-8

This summer ODE published *Comparative Analysis of the Revised Content Standards for Science Grades K-8*. This document provides a comparison of the main concepts of the previous *2002 Science Academic Content Standards* with the *2010 Revised Science Standards*. It is organized in three columns. The first column provides information about content that is new to the grade level. This includes information that has been moved from another grade level in the 2002 standards. The last column features content that will no longer be taught in a particular grade and where that content can now be found. Some content is no longer emphasized and it has been removed. The middle column highlights content that overlaps the two documents. This content may be modified or developed to a greater depth. The content elaborations must be studied carefully to determine the content limits for the topic.

Ohio Math Science Partnership (OMSP) Program, FY 2012

The USDOE has extended the MSP grants for an additional year (FY 2012), so ODE has posted a new Request for Proposal (RFP) document on the OMSP page of the ODE

From ODE con't

website. For the 2012 OMSP grant round, partnerships will be able to choose from three different options that are designed to improve teacher content knowledge and pedagogy in science and/or mathematics.

Professional Development Opportunities

ODE will be offering a series of workshops which will help educators understand the revised standards and model curriculum in four content areas (science, social studies, mathematics, and English language arts) beginning in late October and continuing through May. The meetings will be held at the regional Educational Service Centers and will be open to educators from all Race to the Top schools. Workshops from October through December will provide educators with a general understanding of the revised standards and model curriculum. Workshops from January through May will provide educators with a deeper understanding of the educational shifts required by the revised standards as well as support for curricular revision to align with the revised standards. Educators can register on STARS once the workshops have been posted.

Cathy Holmes

Cleveland Regional Council of Science Teachers

41st Annual Fall Conference

Cleveland Botanical Garden

Saturday, October 15th, 2011

Registration form at http://www.crcst.org/Fall_conf2011reg_form.pdf

Tentative Schedule

7:30-8:15 am Registration, continental breakfast, networking & browsing vendor displays
 8:30-9:15 am Concurrent session I
 9:15-9:30 am Annual Membership Meeting
 9:30-10:15 am Keynote address
 10:20-10:50 am Vendors and refreshments
 11:00-11:45 am Concurrent session II
 11:55-12:40pm Concurrent session III
 12:40 - ??? Explore vendors, network with colleagues, & enjoy the Garden

Concurrent session topics include life, earth/space, physical, and integrated science for elementary through college classrooms. Give-aways and vendors also back by popular demand. Explore the Garden, other professional science education organizations, displays, and more. Questions: Renata Brown: 216.707.2820 rbrown@cbgarden.org



Attend the **Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine's Mini Med School** to enhance your professional and personal development. Mini Med School is medical school for the rest of us - those not seeking an M.D. degree but with an interest in health research and trends.

The Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine's Mini Med School is a five session program open to all individuals with a thirst for knowledge. Beginning October 4, 2011, sessions will meet on consecutive Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Wolstein Building on the Case Western Reserve University Campus.

The Fall program topics include:

- * Dermatology: Scratching Below the Surface of Itch: Understanding Its Causes and Treatments
- * Hematology/Oncology: Medical Therapy of Prostate Cancer
- * Rheumatology: Understanding and Treating Osteoarthritis-Not Just "Wear-and-Tear"
- * Neurology: Headache and Multiple Sclerosis
- * Hematology/Oncology: Breast Cancer, Genetics of Risk, and Determinants of Personalized Approaches and Toxicities of Therapy

Mini Med School will be taught by Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine faculty. The content will be presented in plain English and no prior scientific or medical background is needed. At only \$85 for one person and \$150 for two, the Mini Med School is affordable for anyone who is interested in learning more about health and medicine innovations.

To register online, please visit <http://casemed.case.edu/cme/minimedschool/>. For more information or to register via telephone, call 216-983-1239.

Seminars on Science from the American Museum of Natural History offers six-week, online courses for teachers in the life, Earth and physical sciences. From the complexity of the human genome to the science of climate change, AMNH seeks to connect teachers to science through rich resources, interaction with working scientists, and eye-opening discussions on current science topics. Affordable graduate credit is available for all courses (see website for details).

Designed for K-12 educators, each course is led by an experienced classroom teacher and a research scientist. In-depth readings and assignments paired with rich web-based discussions assure that educators come away from each class with a deeper understanding of both the science and the tools of scientific inquiry. Each participant receives a CD of course resources suitable for classroom use.

Courses include *Earth: Inside and Out*; *Water: Environmental Science*; *Climate Change*; *The Ocean System*; *Genetics, Genomics, Genethics*; *Evolution*; and more.

Please see the website for the full course listing. Free sample resources for each course - including essays, videos and interactive simulations - are available online. The second series of the fall sessions run October 24 – December 4. **Registration for Session 2 closes October 10.**

For more information and to register, go to learn.amnh.org or call 800-649-6715.

The *Seminars on Science* Team

The Northwest Ohio Center for Excellence

NWO STEM Education Inquiry Series 2011-12

Thursday, October 20, 2011

Formative Assessment and Understanding the Newly Revised State Standards in Math and Science

Are your students learning? What evidence do you have? Learn to use a variety of formative assessments as part of your instructional process. Assessment for learning allows you to gather multiple sources of evidence which will guide instruction in your math and science classroom as you implement the revised state standards.

Presented by: Debra Gallagher, Ohio Northern University

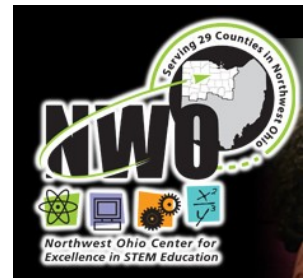
Location & Time for All Events:

5:00 - 8:00 PM @ Rossford High School

Registration Fee: \$15/night

Registration Information available at: <http://nwocenter.org/inquiryseries>

Contact Hour Certificates Available for All Events



2011 NWO Symposium on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Teaching

Saturday, November 5, 2011

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Penta Career Center

9301 Buck Rd.

Perrysburg, OH

Attendee Registration Fee:

Undergraduate Students:

- \$15 Online Registration (deadline October 21)
- \$25 Onsite Registration
-

Standard Registration:

- \$35 Online Registration (deadline October 21)
- \$45 Onsite Registration
-

Multiple Participant Discount: (5 or more participants from same school)

- Schools with 5 or more participants are eligible for a reduced registration fee of \$30 per participant before October 21.

Go to <http://cosmos.bgsu.edu/nwoSymposium/AttendeeReg.htm>



**Great Lakes Science Center
Evening for Educators
Tuesday, October 4
4:30 - 7:30 pm**

Come to this special open house and preview our newest exhibition, *Goose Bumps! The Science of Fear*, explore our hands-on exhibits, sample our new classroom workshops, enjoy refreshments and see an OMNI-MAX movie. Meet Science Center education staff and learn about exciting new field trip opportunities.

Admission is free, but advance reservations are required. Register by Monday, October 3. Call 216-621-2400 or email edhelp@glsc.org.

Ohio Educational Technology Conference



Feb 13 - 15, 2012
Greater Columbus
Convention Center,
Columbus, OH

This year's theme, **Next Generation Innovation**, invites proposals that embrace thoughtful integration of technology into the classroom experience; share efficiencies with technological advances in the administering of education; and evaluate tools for teaching all of our students. eTech Ohio continues to collaborate with numerous state agencies and educational institutions to provide a premiere professional development event for all of us - teachers, faculty, librarians, instructional designers, administrators, students, and technicians.

The deadline to submit a proposal is **Wednesday, October 12th at 11:59 pm**.

Go to <http://www.etech.ohio.gov/conference/presenters/>

**International Observe the Moon Night
October 8, 2011**

Get ready for International Observe the Moon Night (InOMN)! This night will be dedicated to encouraging as many people as possible, worldwide, to spend an evening observing and learning about the Moon. Information about InOMN and the Moon, a listing of all registered events, step-by-step instructions on hosting your own event, activities, and more are available at <http://observethemoonnight.org/>.

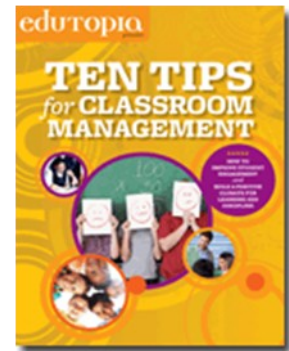


Resources

[Ten Tips for Classroom Management](#) are sure to improve student engagement and build a positive climate for learning and discipline.

[Download our Classroom Management Guide today!](#)

[Cindy Johanson](#), *The George Lucas Educational Foundation*



Scijinks

A sea of critical real-time weather data floods into the satellite's memory grid! A storm full of tornadoes is brewing! The Sun is about to blast out a huge solar flare that could destroy satellites! To save lives and protect expensive instruments, the GOES-R weather satellite must not lose any of the data it is collecting. You can help! The new Satellite Insight game on Scijinks challenges you to keep GOES-R's incoming data "buffer" from overflowing. Keep it going as long as you can and try to beat your best time! Check it out at <http://scijinks.gov/satellite-insight>.

Distributed by Laura K. Lincoln, on behalf of the Scijinks Team.

EPA Showcases Educational Website on Climate Change for Middle School Students

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched an all new website titled "A Student's Guide to Global Climate Change" devoted to educating 6-8th graders about Earth's climate and how it is changing as a result of burning fossil fuels and other human activities.

The site, launched in April of this year, provides students and educators with content on the science of climate change, how it affects society and ecosystems, and information about solutions to the climate change problem. The information is presented in a variety of compelling formats including video, animations, interactive graphics, and "expeditions" where students can explore and learn how climate change will affect places around the world. This new web resource can be used by teachers, and informal educators to develop class activities and homework.

The site covers the Climate Literacy Principles developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the science content on references key peer reviewed climate assessment reports and was reviewed for scientific accuracy by climate experts at EPA.

To view the site: <http://epa.gov/climatechange/students/>.

EARTH SCIENCE WEEK 2011 CONTEST THEMES ANNOUNCED

The **American Geological Institute** (AGI) is sponsoring three national contests as part of Earth Science Week 2011, celebrating the theme of "**Our Ever-Changing Earth,**" **October 9-15.**

Students, geologists, and the general public are encouraged to enter this year's Earth Science Week photography contest, "A World of Change in My Community." Use your camera to capture the evidence of the long- or short-term changes taking place around our planet and even in your own neighborhood.

Students in grades K-5 are eligible to enter the visual arts contest, "Picturing our Ever-Changing Earth." Create a two-dimensional piece of artwork to illustrate the various ways air, water, land, and living things change over time.

The essay contest, "How Change Shapes our Planet," is open to any student in grades 6-9. In a brief essay, explain how interactions between Earth's systems can change our world over time. Discuss the processes used to study these change and how human life can be affected by geologic transformation.

For more information on these annual contests, including guidelines, deadlines, and information on how to correctly submit your entry, please visit <http://www.earthsciweek.org/contests/>.

Geoff Camphire gac@agiweb.org

BSCS Seeks Elementary, Middle, and High School Teachers to Pilot Test Diabetes Education Curriculum Supplements!

BSCS is developing seven curriculum supplements spanning grades K-12. The target grades for each unit are

- Kindergarten (Science or Health)
- Grades 1-2 (Science or Health)
- Grades 3-5 Science (preferred)
- Grades 6-7 (Life Science preferred)
- Grades 7-8 (Life Science or Health)
- Grades 9-12 (Life Science)
- Grades 9-12 (Health)

There are a limited number of pilot test spaces available. Preference will be given to teachers in schools that have a high percentage of African American or Latino/a students.

Prior to pilot testing, selected teachers will attend a two-day orientation workshop at BSCS (Colorado Springs, Colorado). BSCS will pay all lodging, travel, and meal expenses. Teachers will receive a stipend after completing the pilot-test process. BSCS staff will make site visits to selected schools to observe the pilot-testing process.

Please contact Dr. Anne Westbrook, BSCS Science Educator (awestbrook@bscs.org or 719.219.4139) for more information and an application. Please include the grade level that you are inquiring about.

Attention all PLT Facilitators!

PLT-Ohio is offering a very special opportunity from now until January 10, 2012. All guides for any Secondary Module Workshop that you put on will be given to you for **FREE**. This includes the *Brand New* secondary module **Focus on Forest** (an updated version of the previous one with Forest Ecology material). The other secondary modules included are the **Municipal Solid Waste, Focus on Risk, Places We Live, and Forests of the World**. To read more about each individual module please visit <http://www.plt.org/secondary-curriculum> for a description of each. This is a great deal, as each one of these books normally costs \$15 apiece, so if you've wanted to put on a Secondary Module Workshop, now would be the time to do so. Please remember that all Secondary Module Workshops must be a minimum of 3 hours. We do ask that all proposals be in by November 1st to make sure we have sufficient books in stock for the demand. I hope everyone takes advantage of this offer as it's a great way to add increase your number of workshops and help spread the wonderful material our Secondary Modules have to offer!

Ron Dreyfus, PLT intern



Editor:

Janet Struble

Past President