6 things to know about quality K–12 science education in August 2021

1. **Critical Features of Instructional Materials Design for Today’s Science Standards**

NextGenScience and EdReports teamed up to develop a resource that illustrates and provides unified definitions of design features that ensure instructional materials can help students meet or exceed today’s science standards. The resource is based on an analysis of hundreds of materials reviews that identified trends and high-impact areas of improvement for curriculum materials.

See the resource and corresponding webinar [here](#).

2. **A Call to Action for Science Education: Building Opportunity for the Future**

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine released a new report that lays out a vision for K–16 science education, priorities that need to be addressed to achieve that vision, and a series of research-based recommendations for federal, state, and local actors to improve access to quality science learning experiences.

See the report overview [here](#) and corresponding webinar [here](#).

3. **Webinar on Next Generation STEM Mentoring: An Important Lever in Elevating the Profession**

In this STEM Teacher Leadership Network webinar, STEM leader panelists discuss the importance of teacher mentorships for new STEM teachers and strategies for being a successful mentor teacher. See a corresponding blog post [here](#) by one of the panelists, Richard Velasco, about his experience with a mentor in his early days in the classroom.

See the webinar recording [here](#).
Taking Stock of Science Standards Implementation Summit

The Board of Science Education of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine is hosting a virtual and in-person summit on October 14–15 in Washington, DC to take stock of the current state of efforts to transition to today’s academic standards for science across the country, including next steps to consider for continuing or reinvigorating implementation efforts.

Register for the summit for virtual or in-person attendance here.

Why Coherence Matters for Multilingual Learners in Science Instruction

In this NSTA blog post, Scott Grapin, Assistant Professor at the University of Miami, writes about how coherent and meaningful science learning experiences can be more important than the typical “just in time” strategies to support multilingual learners.

Read the blog post here.

A Plan to Address Elementary Students’ Unfinished Learning in the Wake of Covid-19

This new open-source, living document from the Fordham Institute was developed to help support educators’ planning for the next year. The resource is not discipline specific, and educators working to address unfinished learning in science resulting from COVID-19 disruptions over the past two years can use and adapt this document to inform their strategies.

Read the document here.

A NextGenScience Publication

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