

OpenSciEd Research Agenda Kickoff

March 31, 2021



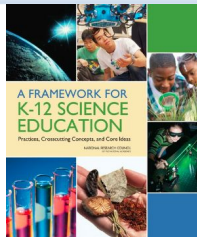
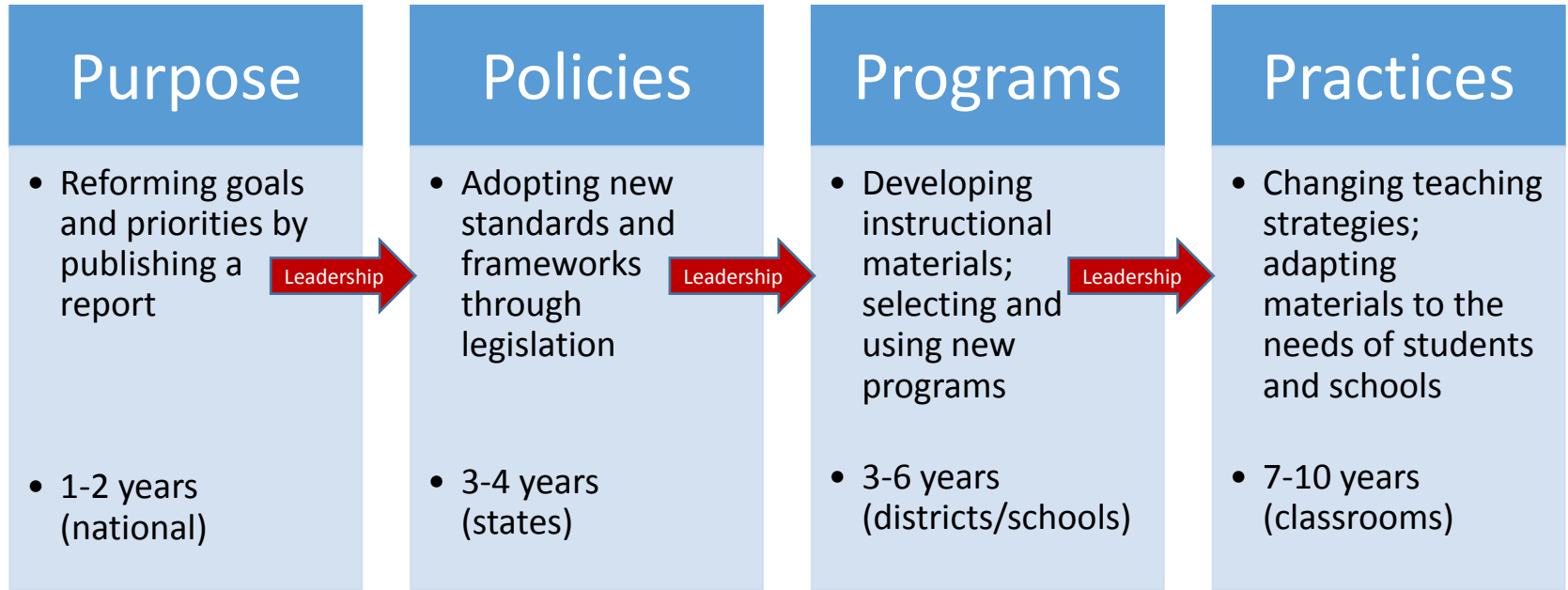


Science Strategy

Education Program
Leadership and Teaching to
Advance Learning

March 2021

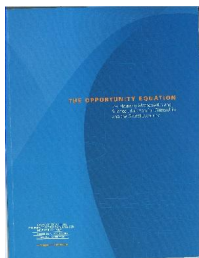
Standards & Curriculum Reform





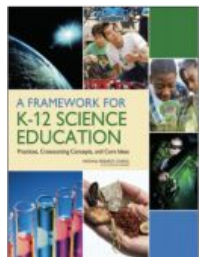
National Reports on Science Education

The National Academies of
**SCIENCES
ENGINEERING
MEDICINE**



**INSTITUTE FOR
ADVANCED STUDY**

2007-2009



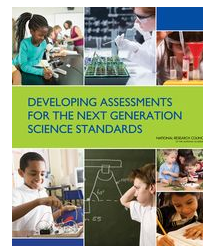
THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES
Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engineering, and Medicine

2009-201

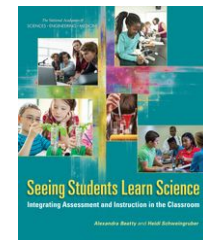
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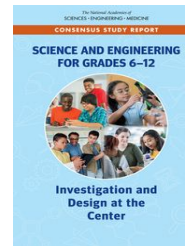
2010-2017



2014



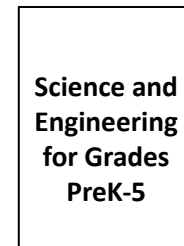
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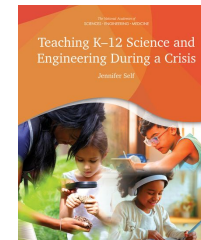
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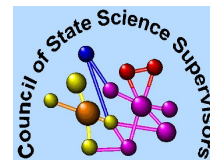
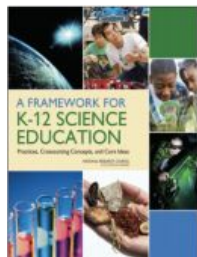
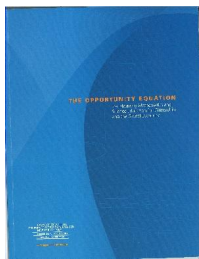


202
1



202
0

Investments in Science Education



OpenSciEd50+

K-12 Instructional Materials



Interim Assessments



Research Agenda



2007-2009

2009-2017

2010-2017

2018-present

2020 - present



A nonprofit organization that aims to improve science education through the development and implementation of **high-quality, freely available K-12 science instructional materials.**



BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*



CHARLES AND LYNN
SCHUSTERMAN
FAMILY FOUNDATION

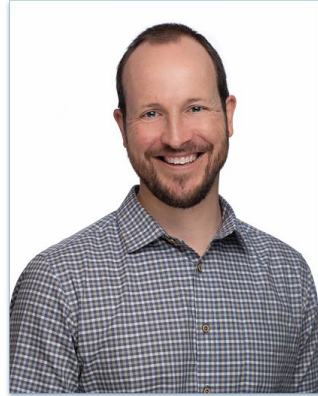


WILLIAM + FLORA

Hewlett
Foundation



Jim Ryan
Executive Director



Matt Krehbiel
Professional Learning
Director



Sarah Delaney
Curriculum Director

3 OpenSciEd Staff Members



5

Organizations
in the Middle School
Developers
Consortium



NextGen Science Storylines
Northwestern University



BOSTON COLLEGE
Lynch School of Education
and Human Development



The University of Texas at Austin
Charles A. Dana Center

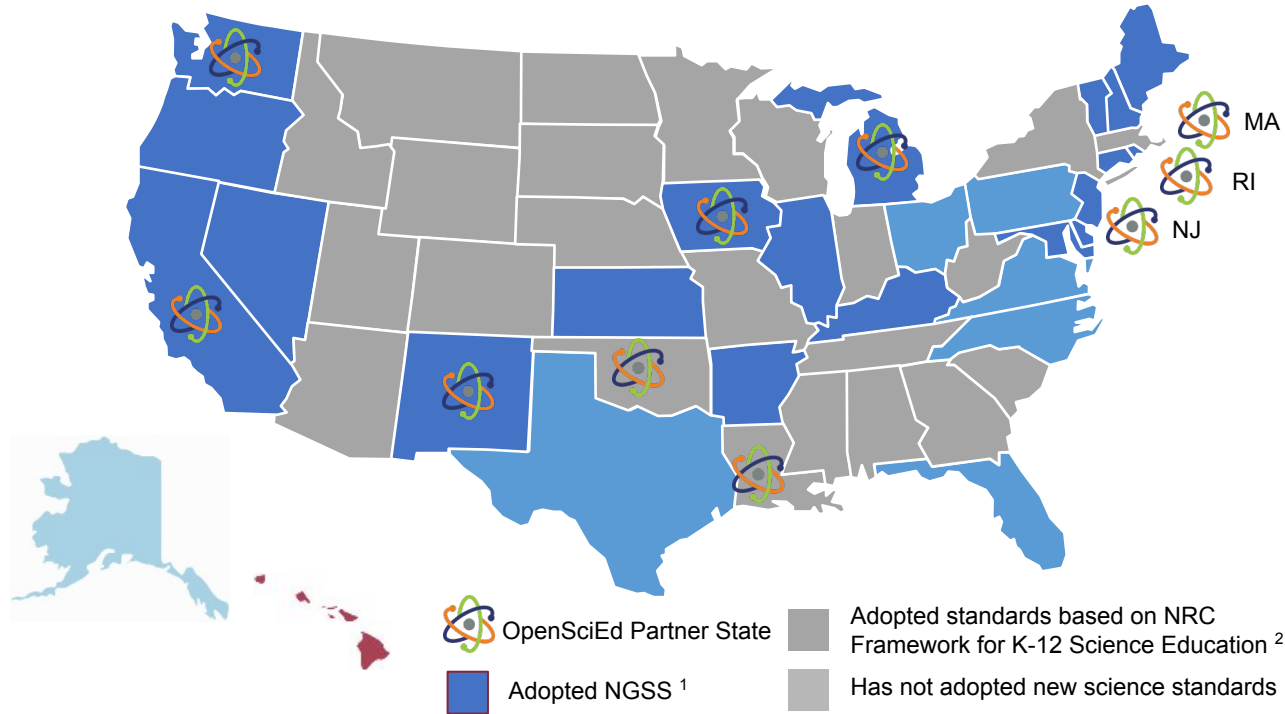


University of Colorado Boulder



20 states and D.C. have adopted the NGSS

24 states have adopted standards based on the NRC Framework



1) States that adopted NGSS made no or minimal changes to NGSS standards

2) States that adopted standards based on NRC framework made minimal to moderate changes to NGSS standards

Source: [NGSS NSTA](https://www.nsta.org/NGSS)

65 Facilitators

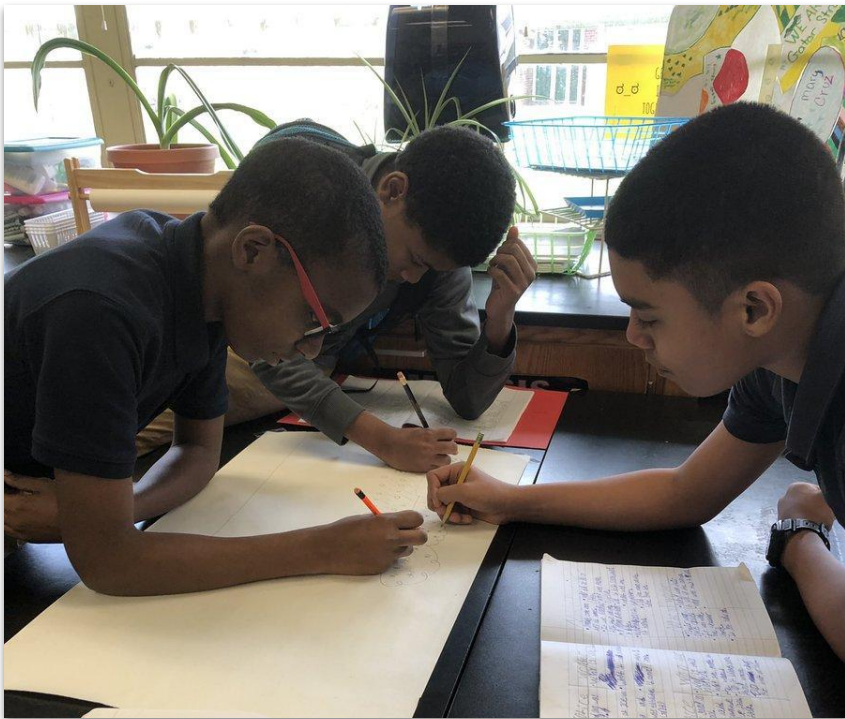




228

Field Test
Middle School
Teachers





Students
contributing to
field test results

5,800

High-quality middle school science classroom and professional learning materials that prioritize equity



Light & Matter

Why do we sometimes see different things when looking at the same object?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

TEACHER EDITION



Plate Tectonics & Tornado Cycling

How and why does Earth's surface change?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Chemical Reactions

How can we make something new that was not there before?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Matter Cycling & Photosynthesis

Where does food come from and where does it go next?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Contact Forces

Why do things sometimes get damaged when they hit each other?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Earth in Space

Why do we see patterns in the sky, and what else is out there that we can't see?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Thermal Energy

How can containers keep stuff from warming up or cooling down?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Natural Hazards

Where do natural hazards happen and how do we prepare for them?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Chemical Reactions & Energy

How can we help people make a flameless heater?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Ecosystem Dynamics

How does changing an ecosystem affect what lives there?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Sound Waves

How can a sound make something move?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Genetics

Why are living things different from one another?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Weather, Climate & Water Cycling

Why does a lot of hail, rain, or snow fall at some times and not others?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Cells & Systems

How do living things heal?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Metabolic Reactions

How do things inside our bodies work together to make us feel the way we do?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Earth's Resources & Human Impact

How do changes in Earth's system impact our communities and what can we do about it?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Forces at a Distance

How can a magnet move another object without touching it?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Natural Selection & Common Ancestry

How could things living today be connected to the things that lived long ago?

OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

FIELD TEST VERSION
MAY 2021



Remote Learning Adaptations

REMOTE LEARNING ADAPTATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Thermal Energy

How can containers keep stuff from warming up or cooling down?



OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

TEACHER EDITION

Remote Learning Guide

Weather, Climate & Water Cycling

Why does a lot of hail, rain, or snow fall at some times and not others?



OpenSciEd
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

TEACHER EDITION

Remote Learning Guide

Visit OpenSciEd.org for more information.



COVID-19 & HEALTH EQUITY SCIENCE UNITS

COVID-19 & Health Equity
GRADE K-2

What can we do to keep our community healthy?



FIELD TEST VERSION



TEACHER EDITION

GRADES K-2

COVID-19 & HEALTH EQUITY
Grades 3-5

How can we make decisions to care for ourselves, our families, and our communities?




FIELD TEST VERSION



GRADES 3-5

COVID-19 & Health Equity
Grades 6-8

How can people help end pandemics?



FIELD TEST VERSION



TEACHER EDITION

MIDDLE SCHOOL

COVID-19 & HEALTH EQUITY
High School Science

How can we slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus to protect our communities?



FIELD TEST VERSION



HIGH SCHOOL

Who's Using this Stuff?

20,961

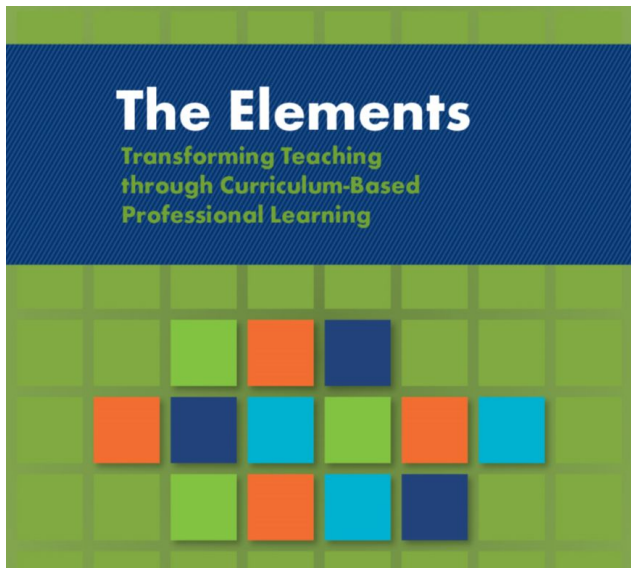
Registered users on
website

203,655

Downloaded items from the
website

422,197

Views on our YouTube Channel



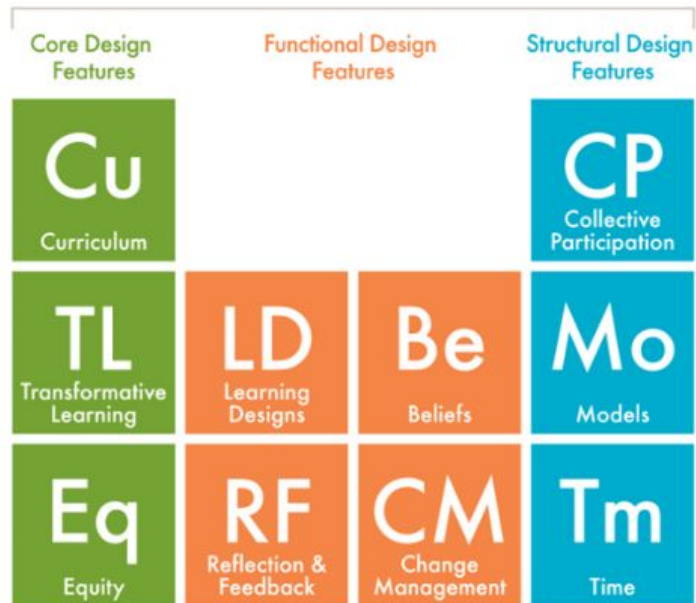
A Challenge Paper From



www.Carnegie.org/Elements

The Elements

of Curriculum-Based Professional Learning



The Essentials



Toward an OpenSciEd Research Community

Jeremy Roschelle
Digital Promise



The Research Opportunities We Envision

- **OpenSciEd-enabled** research
Research questions in service of science education broadly
- **OpenSciEd-inspired** research
Research questions that drive innovations based on distinctive features
- **OpenSciEd-partnership** research
Research and evaluation questions of mutual interest to you and OpenSciEd developers

The vision: an extended community investigating how to improve science education, centered on an open, modern, high quality curriculum.

Types of Research Studies

- **Core research**
Building scientific knowledge about learning and teaching
- **Design research**
Exploring improvements, adaptations and extensions
- **Implementation research**
Building capacity and supporting use
- **Efficacy research**
For whom and under what conditions does OpenSciEd work?
- **Scale up research**
Spread, depth, shift of ownership, sustainability, evolution

What OpenSciEd makes possible

Anchoring in one curriculum can help a community achieving greater impact

- A researcher-practitioner district partnership adapts materials to tackle science equity
- A partnership with a state agency reorganizes the built-in teacher supports to be able to scale up teacher professional development statewide
- A rural STEM consortium develops a toolkit and guidelines for adapting OpenSciEd for differing rural communities nationwide

Why we're excited

OpenSciEd opens up powerful, new research opportunities

Digital Promise's Beliefs

1. Important research requires bringing researchers, practitioners, developers, funders, and other voices together
2. Individual research projects achieve stronger rigor and relevance when they are part of a community
3. Equity is a pressing challenge that we need to tackle together

Call to Action: Join a working group to define what this community should become and what research it should seek to do.

buildbackbetter.gov



PRIORITIES

We aren't just going to rebuild what has worked in the past. This is our opportunity to build back better than ever.



COVID-19



ECONOMIC RECOVERY



RACIAL EQUITY



CLIMATE CHANGE

IMEDIATE PRIORITIES:

COVID-19
CLIMATE
HEALTH CARE

RACIAL EQUITY
IMMIGRATION

ECONOMY
RESTORING AMERICA'S
GLOBAL STANDING

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GLOBAL STANDING

All Standards, All Students

Traditional

Scientists &
Teachers

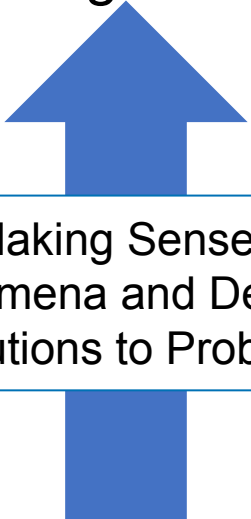


Knowledge of
Science Disciplines

Some Students

Contemporary

Students as Scientists
and Engineers



Making Sense of
Phenomena and Designing
Solutions to Problems

All Students

Future

Students as
??



All Students

A Case for an Equity Research Agenda

Equality: Students are all treated the same and have access to the same resources

Equity: Students all receive the resources they need so they can achieve the same rigorous outcomes

Shifts from Deficits to Assets

Deficit-Oriented Pedagogy

- Linguistically marginalizing
- Linguistic inequity

Asset-Oriented Pedagogy

- Linguistically sustaining
- Linguistic equity




Terms Indicating Shifts from Deficits to Assets

- Limited English proficient students (LEPs) in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
- Students from non-English language backgrounds
- Culturally and linguistically diverse students
- English language learners
- English learners (ELs) in the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015
- Emergent (or emerging) bilinguals
- Multilingual learners
- Term in future federal legislation?

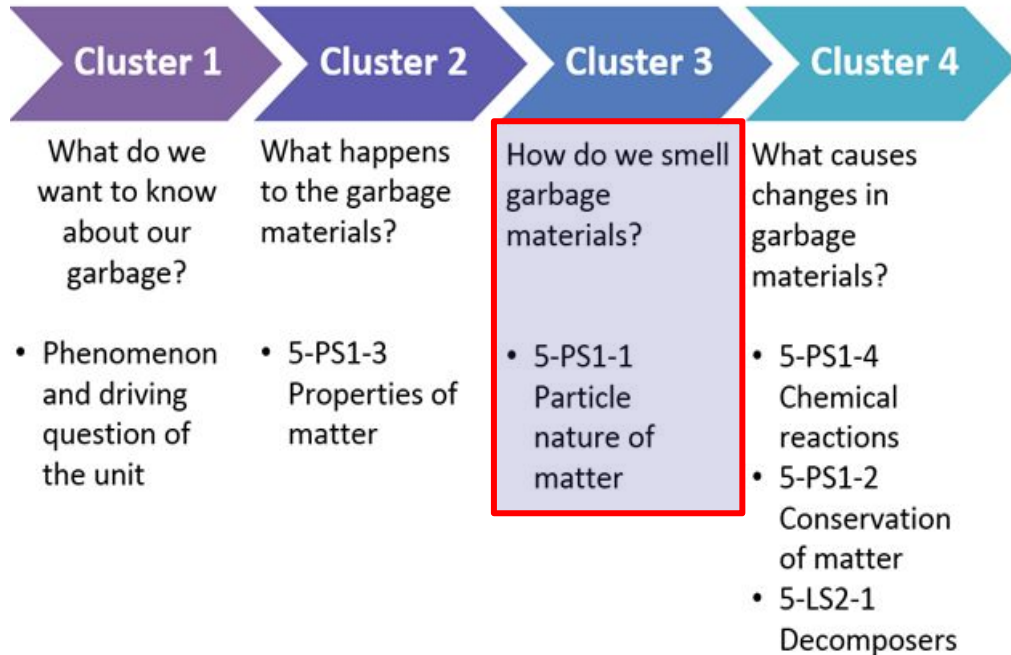
“Doing” Science

CONTENT AREA GRADE
SCIENCE 5



The Garbage Unit

What happens to our garbage?



Doing Science, Using Language

What is That Smell?



Modalities

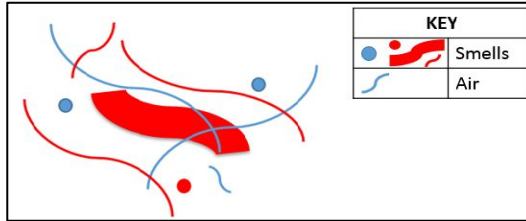


Students use multiple modalities in increasingly strategic ways over time.

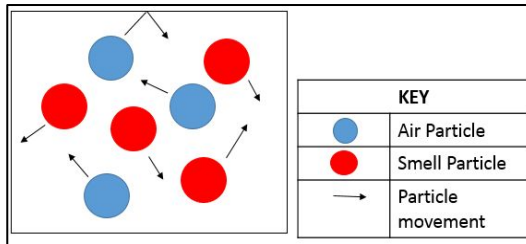
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Smell

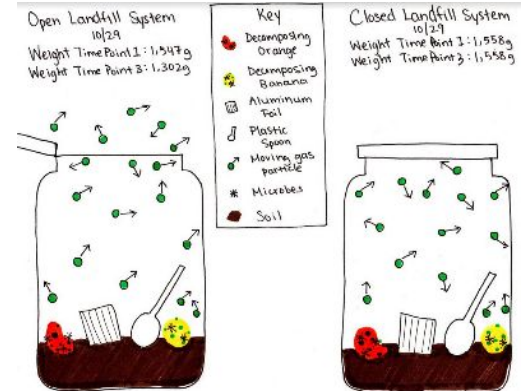
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3



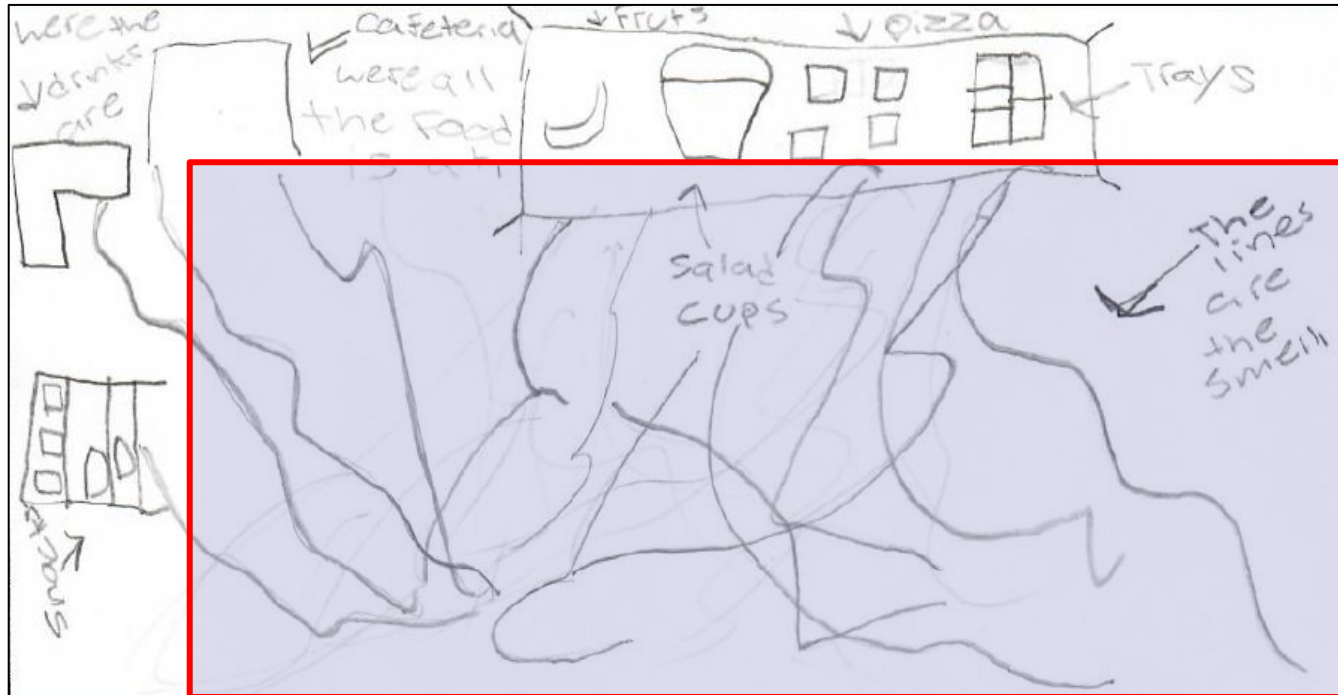
4



Talk, text, diagrams, symbols, tables, graphs, etc.

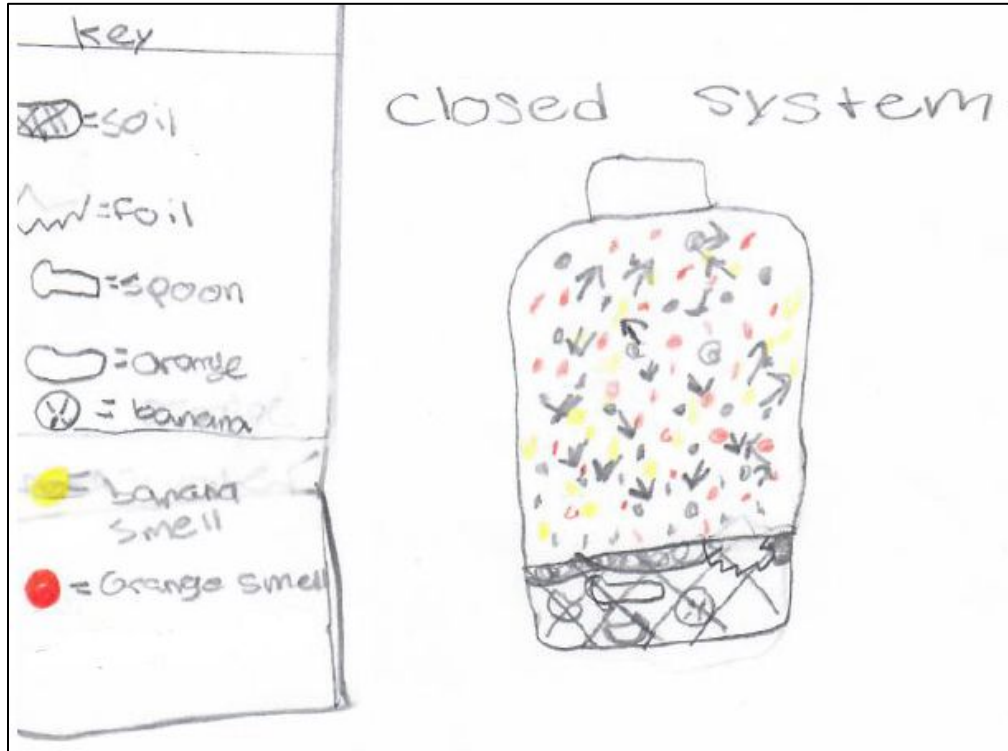
Modalities

Beginning of a lesson cluster



Modalities

End of a lesson cluster



Registers



Students progress from everyday language to specialized language over time

EWWW! It stinks!

Smell is something. It's a gas.

Smell is a gas made of particles too small to see.

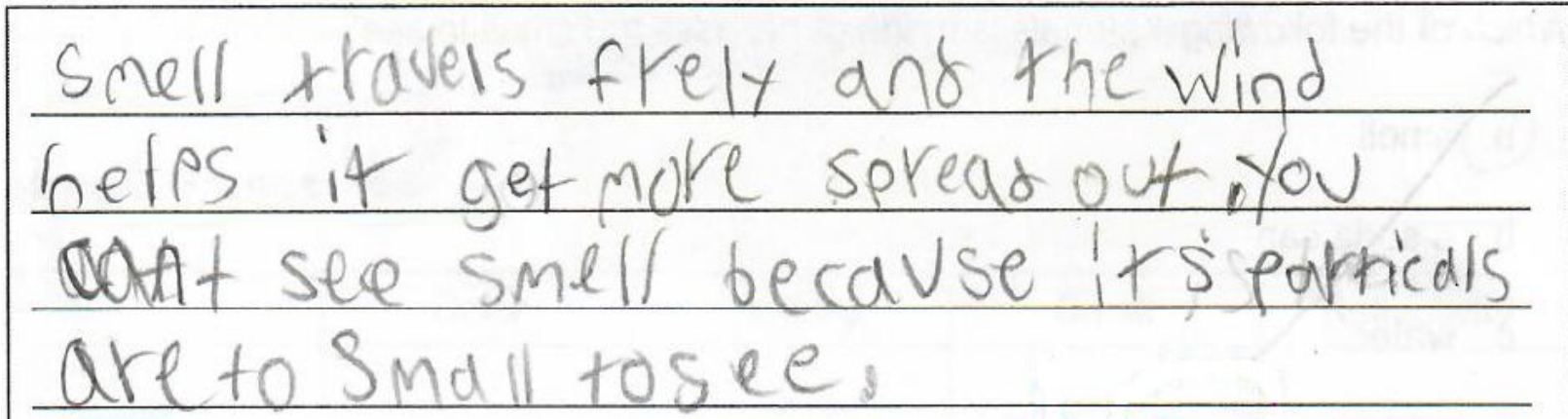
Smell is a gas made of particles moving freely in space.

From everyday to specialized registers

Registers

Beginning of a lesson cluster

Midpoint of a lesson cluster

A photograph of a student's handwritten work on lined paper. The text is written in cursive and reads: "Smell travels freely and the wind helps it get more spread out, you can't see smell because it's particles are too small to see." There are some corrections and a checkmark visible in the original image.

Smell travels freely and the wind helps it get more spread out, you can't see smell because it's particles are too small to see.

End of a lesson cluster

Student Assets

**EVERYDAY
LANGUAGE**

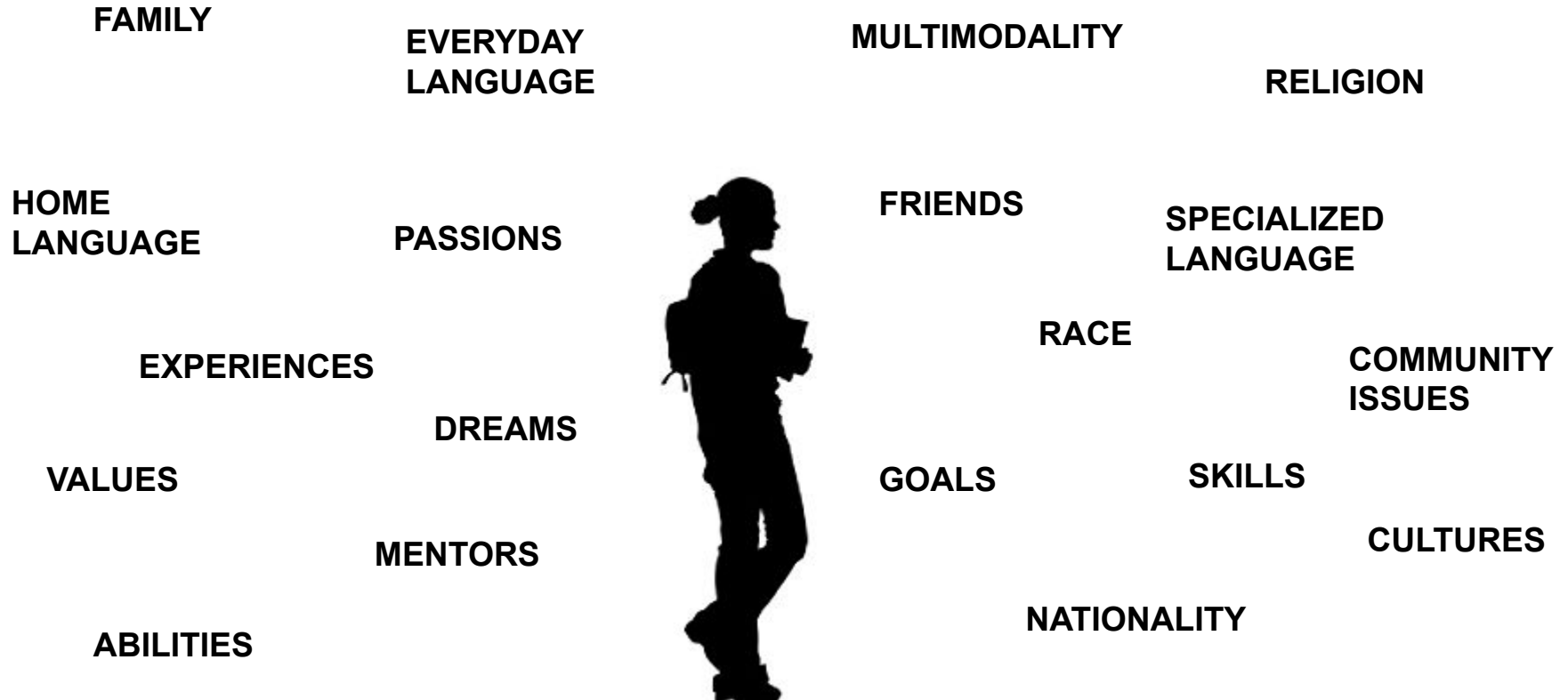
MULTIMODALITY

**HOME
LANGUAGE**

**SPECIALIZED
LANGUAGE**



Student Assets



All Standards, All Students

Traditional

Scientists &
Teachers

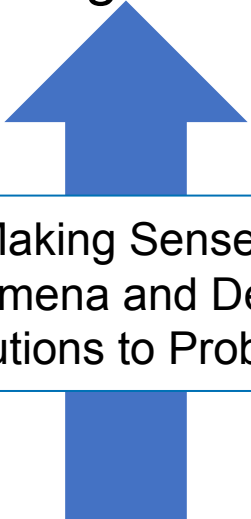


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Phenomena and Designing
Solutions to Problems

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Future

Students as
??



All Students

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HEALTH CARE

RACIAL EQUITY

IMMIGRATION

ECONOMY

RESTORING AMERICA'S

GLOBAL STANDING





Transforming Science Education Through Research-Driven Innovation

It's all a matter of perspective: Starting points for research on OpenSciEd

OpenSciEd Research Agenda Plenary

March 31, 2021

Danny Edelson, BSCS Science Learning

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide consisting of overlapping, semi-transparent blue polygons of various shades, creating a layered, mountain-like or abstract landscape effect.

OpenSciEd is an innovation

- What does it take to get people to adopt it?
 - Who adopts it?
 - Why do they adopt it?
 - Who doesn't? Why not?
- What does it take to implement it successfully?
 - How do people react to the changes that it requires?
 - How do you get people to buy in to the changes?
 - Who buys in? Who doesn't?
- Does it persist?
 - Is it implemented as designed?
 - How does its use change over time?

OpenSciEd is a Solution to a Challenge

- How do you characterize the challenge?
 - How do you measure “solution”?
- How well does it solve the challenge?
 - Is it better at solving than alternatives?
- Under what conditions does it solve the challenge?
 - For whom?
- At what cost does it solve the challenge?
 - Is it affordable?
 - Is it cost-effective in comparison to alternatives?

OpenSciEd is the translation of a theory of change into an intervention

- Are the assumptions about the system being intervened on valid in the "real world"?
- Is the intervention a faithful translation of the theory of change?
- Is there evidence that the individual conjectures in the theory of change are valid?
- Is there evidence that the conjectures are valid when combined in a complex intervention?

OpenSciEd is a drosophila (model organism) for educational research

- What research should we do on OpenSciEd (v 1.0) to provide a baseline for future research?
- Under what different conditions should we study OpenSciEd?
- How can we use OpenSciEd to study changes in the system over time?
- What variations on OpenSciEd should we study?
 - What conjectures can be explored by studying variations on OpenSciEd?

Things to remember about the OpenSciEd Middle School Program

- It belongs to the world.
- It is a first draft of a program that is meant to grow and branch.
- It is a challenge to do better
 - in some cases by improving it,
 - in some cases by doing something different.
- It will fail
 - if it never gets a fair chance,
 - if people ask too much of it,
 - if it never gets a chance to get better.



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Email: dedelson@bscs.org

Twitter: DCEdelson

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide consisting of a low-poly, abstract landscape of blue triangles and polygons in various shades of blue, creating a sense of depth and movement.

An Initial Logic Model to Guide OpenSciEd Research

Kevin McElhaney
Digital Promise



OpenSciEd logic model features

- **It's a draft**—we will refine it together.
- **It's not exhaustive**—it highlights what is most distinctive about OpenSciEd.
- **It's high-level**—a starting point for more detailed models.

An Initial Logic Model to Guide OpenSciEd Research

Kevin McElhaney, Anthony Baker, Carly Chillmon, Zareen Kasad, Babe Liberman, and Jeremy Roschelle

March 31, 2021



Initial Logic Model to Guide OpenSciEd Research

Distinctive Principles

- Coherent to students
- Phenomena-driven
- Development/revision of ideas
- Collaborative knowledge building
- Embody the vision of the Framework

Unique/Key Affordances

- Adaptable
- Freely available
- Extensive and detailed
- Approved

OpenSciEd and Educational Ecosystem

System: Aligns OpenSciEd to system change models to support teacher growth and incentivize the instructional approach. Helps make OpenSciEd *adoptable and sustainable*.

Teacher supports: Enable teachers to implement the OpenSciEd vision and promote teacher growth. Helps make OpenSciEd *learnable and feasible*.

Classroom: Promotes interactions among teachers, students, and materials to achieve desired outcomes. Helps make OpenSciEd *implementable and engaging*.

Desired Outcomes

- System
- Teacher capacity
- Students
- Resources and innovations

Classroom: Promotes interactions among teachers, students, and materials to achieve desired outcomes

Components

- Teacher as facilitator
- Driven by student questions
- Lesson-to-lesson enactment
- Consensus building among students
- Problematization
- Opportunities for assessment

Research opportunities

- Characterize and improve classroom feasibility
- Technologies that support implementation
- Equitable and inclusive instructional practices
- Assessment systems
- Improvements over time
- Practical barriers

Teacher supports: Enable teachers to implement the OpenSciEd vision and promote teacher growth

Themes

- Content understanding
- Unit storyline
- Goals for specific lessons, discussions, and activities
- Logistical and materials strategies

Professional learning activities

- Engage in analysis of and reflection on problems of practice
- Highlight navigation and lesson-to-lesson enactment
- Immerse teachers in content from the student perspective
- Provide opportunities to collaborate and reflect with peers

Research opportunities

- Adapting teacher supports to meet local needs
- Professional learning communities, coaching, and teacher-to-teacher support
- Supporting equity across classrooms
- How much professional development is needed, and can teachers get it
- Supporting professional development leaders from non-science disciplines

System: Aligns OpenSciEd to system change models to support teacher growth and incentivize the instructional approach

Components

- Collaborations with state officers who can help align to existing systems and effect change in states
- System of OpenSciEd professional development service providers with trained and certified facilitators
- Support for districts to prepare for implementing OpenSciEd

Research opportunities

- Variation across states
- Redirecting resources from curriculum to professional learning
- Engaging families
- Accountability systems
- Strategic partnerships
- Building district capacity

Desired Outcomes

Student

- NGSS-based learning outcomes
- Science engagement
 - Phenomena and problems
 - Classroom
 - Coursetaking
 - Community
- Autonomy
 - Science practices
 - Knowledge building practices
- Outcomes are equitable within and across classrooms

Increased teacher capacity to:

- Implement OpenSciEd successfully and sustainably
- Engage all students equitably
- Sustain a classroom culture of “figuring out”
- Achieve self-efficacy

System

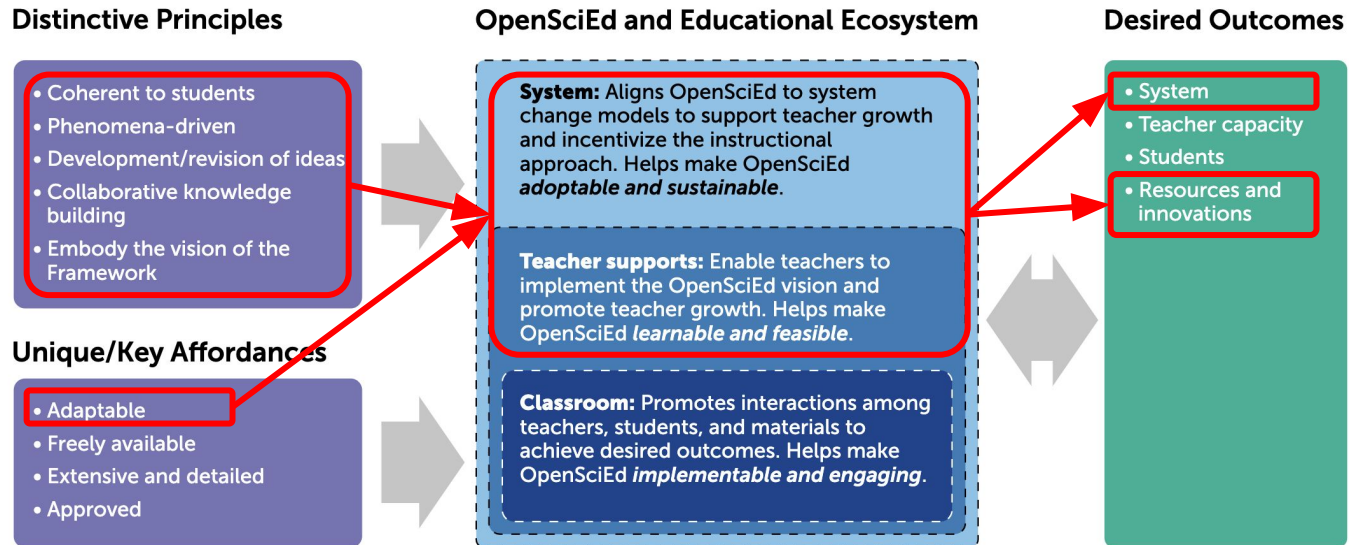
- Deeply committed district adoption
- Broad adoption and infrastructure
- Teacher collaborations
- Shifts in accountability practices
- Teacher professionalism
- Increased resources to teacher professional learning
- Strategic partnerships

Resources and innovations:

- Refined and customized materials
- Technologies
- Assessment systems
- Adoption and implementation models

Research opportunity: District adoption

- How are PD materials adapted? Are they adapted with integrity?
- What teacher-to-teacher supports are successful?
- What shifts occur in district policies / accountability practices?



Stay Connected

- Download the logic model:
<http://bit.ly/OpenSciEdResearch>
- Join the conversation on Twitter:
[#OpenSciEdResearch](#)
[@DigitalPromise](#) [@OpenSciEd](#)
- Email us with questions or ideas:
babe@digitalpromise.org
kmcelhaney@digitalpromise.org



OpenSciEd Research Agenda Team



Anthony Baker



Carly Chillmon



Zareen Kasad



Babe Liberman



Kevin McElhaney



Jeremy Roschelle

Program Committee



Daniel Damelin



Tamara Heck



Okhee Lee



Ann Rivet



Tina Vo

Thank you!



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