

# *NCDPI K-12 Science Resources*

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## **List Serves**

Note: Some school system firewalls prevent all list serve messages – please check with your Technology coordinator to be sure you can receive list serve messages. In some counties this has not been possible and educators have had to join with their home e-mail.

**Science Supervisors List Serve:** Designed to communicate with Central Office Science Curriculum Supervisors. Science teachers are also welcome to join. To join send your name, LEA, e-mail address, phone number and job title to Susan Hart [shart@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:shart@dpi.state.nc.us).

**NCSiTeach:** Science teachers list serve hosted at NCSU. This list serve includes a variety of professional development opportunities, contests for students, grants, and interesting science education news. We do not put non- DPI Professional Development announcements on the Science Supervisors List Serve. Therefore it is important for science teachers and supervisors to belong to both! Directions for joining are appended at the end of this document.

**Elementary Curriculum Support:** Teachers can receive curriculum and testing updates by signing up to be on the elementary science list serve called “eScience”. To get on the list serve, please send your name, your school name, your LEA code, the grade you teach, email, and your phone number to Lisa Mackey [lmackey@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:lmackey@dpi.state.nc.us) .

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**Middle Grades Curriculum Support:** Middle grades professionals are encouraged to join the middle grades science list serve. Members receive information relevant to curriculum support, professional development opportunities for teachers, and the latest news and initiatives at DPI. To join, please email Janet Bailey ([jbailey@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:jbailey@dpi.state.nc.us)) or Beverly Vance ([bvance@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:bvance@dpi.state.nc.us)) with your name, school name, email address and phone number.

**High School Curriculum Support:** Designed for high school teachers interested in serving on curriculum support committees. Members receive information for all subject areas and are expected to share with their departments. To join e-mail Susan Hart at [shart@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:shart@dpi.state.nc.us) with all of your contact information (name, school, subject area, e-mail address and phone) and ask to be added to the High school science support documents list serve.

## **Web Resources**

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/science/> links to the curriculum, revised curriculum, curriculum support documents, sample EOC questions, etc.

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/parents/highschool> links to test overviews and additional sample EOC questions sorted by goal

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/policies/highschoolexit> information on Exit Standards.

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/honorsguide> Honors Course Implementation Guide

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/testing/reports/archive> the North Carolina State Testing Results, also known as the “Green Book”

<http://community.learnnc.org/dpi/science> NCDPI Curriculum and School Reform’s site hosted by LearnNC. Follow links to announcements, professional development, science safety and more resources!

<http://www.schoolclearinghouse.org/pubs/SCIENCE.PDF> school science facilities planner – helpful guide when designing or remodeling science classrooms, laboratories and prep rooms. Important information about safe science facilities.

<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/publications/> look in the on-line catalog for various curriculum materials, science safety posters, science posters, etc.

## **Timeline for 2004 Curriculum**

- Curriculum adopted by SBE December 2003.
- Adoption of Instructional Materials - 2004-2005
- Revised High School Support Documents –available now online linked to each course and through DPI publications
- Implementation for Elementary and Middle School 2005-2006.
- Implementation for High School: 2006-2007 (except Biology 2007 – 2008)

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## **Testing**

Contact: Elizabeth O. Halstead, Accountability Services/Test Development  
Phone: 919.807.3807 Fax: 919.807.3699

- Moving to embedded field testing
- Physics – moving to online test only.
- New Tests 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> - Operational in 2007-2008
- Old EOC Tests continue through 2005-2006, Biology through 2006-2007
- New EOC Science Tests field test in 2006-2007, operational 2007-2008

## **North Carolina Specific Resources for Developing Assessment**

Form to volunteer to be an item writer or reviewer.

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/testing/itemwriters/>

Style manual for item writers – information for science is on pages 18-21.

<http://www.tops.ncsu.edu/control/Text/style%20manual.pdf>

## **Other useful Resources**

Brief description of advantages and disadvantages of different kinds of test items and checklist for item editing. <http://www.oir.uiuc.edu/dme/exams/ITQ.html>

**NAEP Question Tool:** This is sample questions from the NAEP Assessment. Some good sample questions here –also information on how students score nationally on each item. It does take a little time to use. <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/ITMRLS/pickone.asp>

**Edinformatics:** This site pulls together links to states with released science test items. The site can help classroom teachers by providing model test questions. [www.edinformatics.com](http://www.edinformatics.com)

**SCASS:** This site is houses a database of science questions for use in the public domain. Log in as a “guest” and surf the database. [www.sciencescass.org](http://www.sciencescass.org) North Carolina belongs to SCASS and your local testing coordinator should be able to give you a password to use the secure items.

### **Print Resources:**

NSTA has published a series of science content books called *Stop Faking It*. These books are designed to help teachers better understand specific content topics. [www.nsta.org](http://www.nsta.org) Link to the store.

## **Misconceptions Research**

Private Universe materials including videos for teacher workshops can be located at the Private Universe website <http://www.learner.org/teacherslab/pup/>

*Making Sense of Secondary Science: Research into Children’s Ideas.* (1994) Rosalind Driver,

## ***NCDPI K-12 Science Resources***

Ann Squires, Peter Rushworth and Valerie Wood-Robinson. RoutledgeFalmer Taylor and Francis Group New York. ISBN 0-415-097657

*How Students Learn Science in the Classroom.* (2005). National Research Council. M. Suzanne Donovan, John Bransford, editors. National Academies Press, Washington, DC. ISBN0-309-08950-6

### **NCSciteach Listserv**

Join the North Carolina Science educators List serve. The group was setup to facilitate communication among Science educators. It is maintained at NCSU. It is used to advertise Professional Development Opportunities, Grants, Scholarships, Science related contests and other news of interest to science educators. Please forward this information to all interested parties.

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