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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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January 17, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Michael Sentance
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Leaders Learning: Implementing Instructional Materials in Science

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and the Alabama Science Teachers Association (ASTA), in conjunction with the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), will host a full-day workshop for education leaders (all levels of administration/supervision) responsible for K-12 science education to support teachers in making the instructional shifts required in the 2015 *Alabama Course of Study: Science* that successfully provide students with the skills and knowledge needed to be prepared for college and careers.

Today's modern workforce depends on individuals with scientific and technological skills. Research shows that students need to be better prepared to achieve high levels of science performance and that more graduates are needed to fill the growing number of jobs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The demanding and rigorous content in the 2015 *Alabama Course of Study: Science* can provide a solid foundation for students entering a variety of STEM fields while developing individuals with the scientific literacy necessary to make informed decisions regarding societal issues and concerns.

The number and degree of changes required to implement the new science standards are significant. To address the need, nationally recognized experts in science education will conduct a full-day workshop to guide leaders in the state of Alabama to understand three-dimensional learning and how it looks in the K-12 classroom. Recommendations for implementation with fidelity in schools and districts using the suggested instructional materials will be presented. Materials are included.

It is highly recommended that science leaders participate in this important educational event. Please share the enclosed flier with science and curriculum leaders in your school system.

MS/MGR/LM

Attachment

cc: LEA Curriculum Coordinators; Dr. Barbara J. Cooper; Mrs. Shanthia M. Washington; Mrs. Robin A. Nelson; Dr. Kay Warfield; Dr. Michal G. Robinson

FY17-2031

Leaders Learning: Implementing Instructional Materials in Science

Alabama Science: 3–D Learning

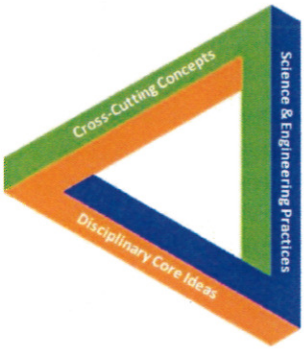
IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR SCIENCE SUCCESS

Education Leaders (all levels of administration/supervision) in Alabama **responsible for K-12 science education** are invited to attend the ***Leaders Learning: Implementing Instructional Materials in Science*** special event on February 10, 2017, in Montgomery.

Co-hosted by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and the Alabama Science Teachers Association (ASTA) in conjunction with the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), this unique learning opportunity will help administrators/supervisors support their teachers and students in making the instructional shifts required in the 2015 *Alabama Course of Study: Science* that will successfully provide students with the skills and knowledge needed to be prepared for college and careers.

The dynamic experts invited to present will help education leaders understand what three-dimensional learning should look like in K-12 classrooms. This full-day workshop includes classroom materials to take back to your school system and a one-year membership to ASTA (snacks and lunch on your own). PLUs may also be available.

For more information or to register for the Leaders Learning event, please visit: https://asta30.wildapricot.org/LeadersLearningEvent.



Leaders Learning:

Implementing Instructional Materials in Science

Ted Willard, a Program Director for NSTA, is a nationally recognized expert on the implementation of three-dimensional learning. While at AAAS Project 2061, he was involved in the efforts toward standards-based education reform—including teacher professional development, curriculum resources development, assessment development, and science education research.

Kim Stilwell, NSTA consultant and Picture Perfect trainer, has extensive experience as a trainer for educational curriculum companies with expertise in promoting science and literacy success using elementary picture books.

Victor Sampson, author of several content-specific *Argument Driven Inquiry* books and lab manuals, is a leader in building real science experiences in middle and high school classrooms so that students develop science proficiency.

Leaders Learning: Implementing Instructional Materials in Science

Location: Gordon Persons Building Auditorium
50 North Ripley Street, Montgomery, AL (Enter at the Ripley Street entrance)

Date: February 10, 2017

Time: 8:30 AM- 3:30 PM

Cost: $110 (includes curriculum materials [three books] and a one-year membership to the Alabama Science Teachers Association)

Contact: **General** - Dr. Michal G. Robinson, ALSDE Science Education Specialist
mrobinson@alsde.edu
(334) 353-1191

Registration- Mrs. Mary Ellen Manning, ASTA President
mary.manning@tcschools.com
(334) 202-0151

PLU information will be available onsite.