

NGSS Professional Development Workshop Series Planning NGSS-Aligned Lessons and Assessments

Grades K-5: Tuesday March 10, 2020, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Grades 6-12: Wednesday March 11, 2020, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Fee: \$125 Credits: 5.5 PDU Hours

In 2019-2020, the Science Education Institute at Raritan Valley Community College will offer a series of four one-day workshops designed to support teachers and supervisors with the implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

The vision behind the NGSS is to provide students with the knowledge and skills so that later in life they can use science to make sense of the natural world outside the classroom. To make this vision a reality, NGSS-aligned lessons are driven by natural phenomena (observable events). Students learn how to use Crosscutting Concepts to guide their thinking about these phenomena. They engage in Science Practices and use Core Ideas in science to investigate how and why these natural phenomena occur and support their explanations with arguments.



The first part of this workshop will focus on the explicit use of Core Ideas to write teacher-level explanations for natural phenomena. These can be used to define science content goals for instruction and assessments. The second part of this workshop will provide explicit guidance on writing Performance Tasks that meaningfully combine Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Core Ideas. These Performance Tasks will help guide and focus students as they investigate phenomena, and they will prepare students for the NGSS Performance Expectations. Participants will use an extensive lesson planning guide and a nationally field-tested template to plan NGSS-aligned lessons and assessments.

The workshop will be held at Raritan Valley Community College in North Branch (NJ) and will begin promptly at 9 am and end at 3:30 pm. Light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

The workshop is led by Dr. Wil van der Veen, a nationally recognized expert in science education and a member of the New Jersey State Leadership Team for the NGSS. Participants will work in small groups that are facilitated by experienced classroom teachers from our NGSS Teacher Leader Program.

For more information and to register online go to our website at www.raritanval.edu/ngss.

We recommend sending leadership teams of 3-7 teachers to at least three one-day workshops or the Summer Institute to develop a solid foundation for the NGSS.