

ACTION:

New Mexico Must Adopt Next Generation Science Standards

State officials are considering the adoption of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for K–12 education. They need encouragement from STEM stakeholders like you. Tell them why you support NGSS adoption!

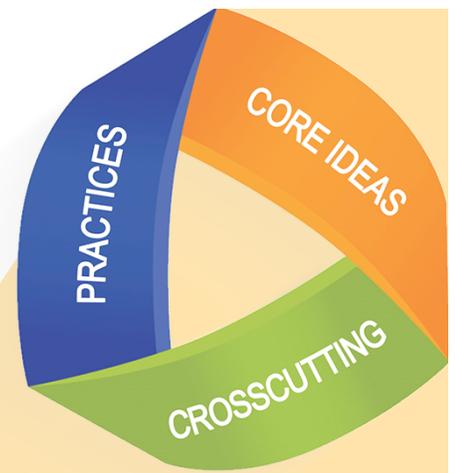
Talking Points

- » NGSS prepares students to be successful in 21st century careers.
- » NGSS prepares students academically for both college and technical schools.
- » Through NGSS, students learn core STEM concepts, including current science content, engineering, and skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, and communication.
- » A STEM-qualified workforce will positively impact the economy of New Mexico.
- » NGSS prepares students to become engaged, scientifically literate citizens.
- » Our current state standards are out-of-date and not aligned to Common Core.
- » A statewide panel of 85 New Mexico teachers, administrators, and professors reviewed NGSS and recommended adoption in 2015.
- » Students have fun with engaging, rigorous curriculum content that makes STEM relevant to them and the world in which we live.

This year, the Governor will make the decision which direction to go with science learning, curriculum, and materials. We must act now to advocate for NGSS, so New Mexico and our students are not left behind!

WHO TO CONTACT:

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- » **Your State Representative and Senator**
- » **Members of the Science, Technology and Communication Committee**
- » **Members of the Legislative Education Study Committee**



NGSS:

Improving Science Education Through 3-Dimensional Learning

Within the Next Generation Science Standards, there are three distinct and equally important dimensions to learning science. These dimensions are combined to form each standard—or performance expectation—and each dimension works with the other two to help students build a cohesive understanding of science over time.

Disciplinary Core Ideas are the key ideas in science that have broad importance within or across multiple science or engineering disciplines. These core ideas build on each other as students progress through grade levels and are grouped into the following four domains: Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space Science, and Engineering.

Crosscutting Concepts help students explore connections across the four domains of science, including Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space Science, and Engineering Design.

When these concepts, such as “cause and effect”, are made explicit for students, they can help students develop a coherent and scientifically based view of the world around them.

Science & Engineering Practices describe what scientists do to investigate the natural world and what engineers do to design and build systems. The practices better explain and extend what is meant by “inquiry” in science and the range of cognitive, social, and physical practices that it requires. Students engage in practices to build, deepen, and apply their knowledge of core ideas and crosscutting concepts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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