



Montana Small Schools Alliance

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Montana Small Schools Alliance Presents:

Montana OPI with Michelle McCarthy

Virtual Professional Development: New MT Science Assessment

Virtual Workshop Description

This coming spring (2021), the state of Montana plans to implement the Montana Science Assessment (MSA) and the Alt MSA that aligns with the current science standards that were implemented in July of 2017 for the first time. Due to the pandemic the field test planned for the spring of 2020 received a federal waiver. This is the first time that the science assessments will be in an online format. Also, the grades that students are tested in science have changed. Students will now be tested in 5th and 8th grades, and the ACT test will act as the science test for 11th grade. Science has also been added to the ESSA plan as an accountability component, which it has not been in the past.

The assessment will be measuring the three dimensions of the science standards, the Science and Engineering Practices, the Disciplinary Core Ideas, and the Crosscutting Concepts. To familiarize yourself and be prepared for this assessment, we will spend the day reviewing the sample test items, and addressing these components that the students will need to know and be able to do.

8:30 am

Zoom Meeting

- Zoom Protocol
- Preparation of links for the meeting
- Introductions
- Timeline for standards and assessments
 - Nathan updates the group on Where we are on a balanced Science Assessment Program
- Resources
- The 3 Dimensions
 - Comparison Document
 - Phenomena
 - SEP's
 - CCC's
 - DCI's
- Anonymous Poll: How familiar are you with 3D?
- Explore locations of information for the MT Science Assessment (MSA)

- Assessment Tools
- Item Interactions
- Quick Start Guide

10:30am

15 minute Break

10:45am

Sample Test Item by grade level: Group Work

- Group Presentations

11:15am

Offline Independent Work and Lunch

Return to Zoom:

2:15pm

Get a deep understanding of 3D in [Montana's Science Standards 101](#)

2:15pm

Apply Learning from course to Folder Slide Decks (SEP's and CCC's)

2:45pm

[Survey Completion Checkout](#)

College of Education Health and Human
Development MSU, Bozeman

Montana Rural Education Center
UM - Western

Montana Association of County School
Superintendents

Montana School Boards Association