

Notes from Stakeholder Meetings

Feedback from Session Attendees

Cambria County Meeting – February 19, 2020

- The format was more of a workshop than a forum.
- A lot of breakout sessions based on your role in education to generate questions, concerns, wants, needs, etc.
- “I was able to rally many of the science teachers (which made up the majority of our representation) by explaining that in our district in VA, because the NGSS includes language for engineering, that many science teachers were being thrown into roles teaching robotics, coding, etc. that they weren't prepared for. That seemed a more productive angle than expressing worry about Tech Ed teachers.”
- “It helped open dialogue about the presence of TE teachers in many of our schools who could be working collaboratively with science, rather than in silos.”
- The state seems genuinely interested in feedback and input and is not necessarily wed to the idea of NGSS outright, but rather they are at least entertaining the possibility of writing our own standards or creating a more hybrid document.

Allegheny County Meeting – February 20, 2020

- Overall, it was a very informative session and great exchange of ideas about what standards need to be addressed for the future of science and technology in PA.
- The overwhelming majority of people that attended the meeting were science teachers.
- Lots of talk about working on “science standards” without mention of the role of technology in the standards until the end.
- PDE representatives did mention the focus on not only science but technology education and the importance of technology education to STEM education.
- There was talk about the states that have adopted the Next Generation Science Standards as their science standards. Many in attendance talked about just adopting these as our standards too.
- Please if you can, attend one of these stakeholder meetings, the comments and ideas at these meetings are going to be used to create the standards and support the need for the standards.

Questions for Starting Conversations

Why is this process being publicized as a revision of Science Standards?

How will the topic of engineering be integrated into academic standards?

How can a content area like science find time, resources, etc. to set aside part of their existing curriculum to cover the technology and engineering content?

What is the rationale for including the discipline of technology education in the science academic standards?

How well prepared are science educators to deliver technology and engineering content?

How will students get experience with any depth of content or process through engineering?

How will the doing and making characteristics of technology and engineering education be safely taught in a science environment?