Science Teaching Standards
From
National Science Education Standards

TEACHING STANDARD A:

Teachers of science plan an inquiry-based science program for their students. In doing this, teachers

- Develop a framework of yearlong and short-term goals for students.
- Select science content and adapt and design curricula to meet the interests, knowledge, understanding, abilities, and experiences of students.
- Select teaching and assessment strategies that support the development of student understanding and nurture a community of science learners.
- Work together as colleagues within and across disciplines and grade levels.

TEACHING STANDARD B:

Teachers of science guide and facilitate learning. In doing this, teachers

- Focus and support inquiries while interacting with students.
- Orchestrate discourse among students about scientific ideas.
- Challenge students to accept and share responsibility for their own learning.
- Recognize and respond to student diversity and encourage all students to participate fully in science learning.
- Encourage and model the skills of scientific inquiry, as well as the curiosity, openness to new ideas and data, and skepticism that characterize science.

TEACHING STANDARD C:

Teachers of science engage in ongoing assessment of their teaching and of student learning. In doing this, teachers

- Use multiple methods and systematically gather data about student understanding and ability.
- Analyze assessment data to guide teaching.
• Use student data, observations of teaching and interactions with colleagues to reflect on and improve teaching practice.
• Use student data observations of teaching, and interactions with colleagues to report student achievement and opportunities to learn to students, teachers, parents, policy makers, and the general public.

TEACHING STANDARD D:

Teachers of science design and manage learning environments that provide students with the time, space, and resources needed for learning science. In doing this, teachers

• Structure the time available so that students are able to engage in extended investigations.
• Create a setting for student work that is flexible and supportive of science inquiry.
• Ensure a safe working environment.
• Make the available science tools, materials, media, and technological resources accessible to students.
• Identify and use resources outside the school.
• Engage students in designing the learning environment.

TEACHING STANDARD E:

Teachers of science develop communities of science learners that reflect the intellectual rigor of scientific inquiry and the attitudes and social values conducive to science learning. In doing this, teachers

• Display and demand respect for the diverse ideas, skills, and experiences of all students.
• Enable students to have a significant voice in decisions about the content and context of their work and require students to take responsibility for the learning of all members of the community.
• Nurture collaboration among students.
• Structure and facilitate ongoing formal and informal discussion based on a shared understanding of rules of scientific discourse.
• Model and emphasize the skills, attitudes, and values of scientific inquiry.

TEACHING STANDARD F:

Teachers of science actively participate in the ongoing planning and development of the school science program. In doing this, teachers
• Plan and develop the school science program.
• Participate in decisions concerning the allocation of time and other resources to the science program.
• Participate fully in planning and implementing professional growth and development strategies for themselves and their colleagues.