

Introduction

The 2020-21 school year will be challenging but with patience, flexibility, and collaboration, we can get through this together. The instructional model for the year has not been finalized but with school starting, we need to plan with the latest instructional model communicated. That model would be minimesters. With the minimester model, the series of learning experiences and standards taught during the first minimester would repeat during the second minimester. The series of learning experiences and standards taught during the third minimester would repeat during the fourth minimester. What do you teach during these minimesters? Given there is no district curriculum or set of materials to support high school science instruction, it is important that site teams and/or across site teams come together to collaborate in identifying priority instructional content and the aligned resources.

Criteria for Planning your Instructional Content

As you plan, consider the following suggestions below. Note these suggestions were shared in the [Distant Learning for STEM Teacher flipbook in the Spring](#).

Learning experiences should look MORE like...	Learning experiences should look LESS like...
Flexible goals and structures for learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extended time for learning and reflection • use of commonly available materials • purposeful selection of learning targets • allowing students to explore their interests • meaningful, manageable tasks and projects • opportunities to learn without the use of devices or the internet 	An attempt to recreate school at home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ assuming a strict “school day” schedule ✗ requiring special materials ✗ pacing with the planned scope and sequence ✗ assigning readings to stay “caught up” ✗ packet of worksheets and busy-work ✗ all learning experiences happen virtually

Purposeful teacher-student interactions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • optional opportunities to connect with teachers and peers virtually and at a variety of times • teachers providing coaching, feedback, and encouragement • encouraging students to engage in learning and reflection with their families and communities • encouraging self-reflection on what students learn and how they learn it 	Teacher-centered instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ virtual lectures/classes that all students synchronously attend ✗ teachers delivering information and assignments ✗ teacher instruction and feedback as the primary mode of facilitating learning
Authentic learning in the home setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • connecting learning to household activities, like cooking, fixing things, or gardening • asking students to identify relevant problems in their lives and engage in design cycles to address them • allowing students to deeply explore phenomena or problems of interest through investigation to build understanding and practice over time 	Assignments to “get through” content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ emphasizing memorizing content, skills or “checking off” tasks on lists ✗ asking students to solve contrived or hypothetical problems, or complete design projects that value form over function ✗ trying to cover content through a volume of activities or skipping from topic to topic

Teacher Collaboration:

Teachers can collaborate in a number of ways.

Join the High School Google Classroom! The class code is **xawqa4m**. This is a place where the High School Science Community can connect and share resources. We in this together! For example, in order for a high school science course to fulfill the ["D" requirement](#), they have to provide a lab a week. In the Spring and over the summer, many teachers have been gathering a list of virtual labs that they can do with their students. Share your resources with other teachers here!

Come together during Secondary Science Office Hours - Mondays & Thursdays from 3-4pm **Starting Aug. 17th** Zoom link: <https://ousd.zoom.us/j/89643038314?pwd=cnVSMm05MEVWc0JXcVpwTkVGMnR4Zz09>

Suggested Priority Instructional Content

Below are suggestions for priority instructional content in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. These suggestions were based on the California Science Framework for High School 3 Course Model - [Biology](#), [Chemistry](#), & [Physics](#). *NOTE - teachers and site science departments may choose to present instructional content in a different sequence than the one indicated below.*

Course	Minimester 1	Minimester 2 (repeat of instruction)	Minimester 3	Minimester 4 (repeat of instruction)
Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecosystems Interaction and Energy - History of Earth's Atmosphere: Photosynthesis and Respiration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecosystems Interaction and Energy - History of Earth's Atmosphere: Photosynthesis and Respiration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence of Evolution - Inheritance of Traits - Structure, Function, and Growth (from cell to organism) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence of Evolution - Inheritance of Traits - Structure, Function, and Growth (from cell to organism)
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Combustion - Heat and Energy in the Earth System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Combustion - Heat and Energy in the Earth System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Atoms, Elements, and Molecules - Chemical Reactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Atoms, Elements, and Molecules - Chemical Reactions
Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forces and Motion - Forces at a Distance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forces and Motion - Forces at a Distance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy Conversion - Nuclear Processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy Conversion - Nuclear Processes

Teachers can also reference the OUSD-NGSS aligned transitional curriculum to support their planning.

- [Biology Scope & Sequence](#)
- [Chemistry Scope & Sequence](#)
- [Physics Scope & Sequence](#)

The **Planning Calendar by [Month](#)** includes the end of the marking period, holidays, and PDs (PDs will be updated throughout the year) vs. the **Planning Calendar by [Week](#) - NEW for 2020!** Both calendars are helpful for planning instruction. The planning calendar is subject to change due to school closures and District funding/vision.

Healthy Oakland Teens, OUSD's comprehensive sexual health education program is normally taught to all 9th graders during our district wide Sex Ed Week in November. However this year, the 9th grade Healthy Oakland Teens curriculum will be taught beginning **January 19th** for students on a trimester 1/3 cycle, and **March 22** for students on a trimester 2/4 cycle. Professional Development on the curriculum is required for all new teachers, and will be held online prior to winter break. This year only, the curriculum can be delivered through asynchronous video lessons and digital worksheets which will be provided for teachers and can be assigned through Google Classroom. For veteran teachers, there will be a short video provided to familiarize you with the recent content updates that were made to 9th grade curriculum over the summer. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months! For questions regarding sexual health education programming at OUSD, please reach out to the TSA for Sexual Health Education: katie.kelly-hankin@ousd.org.

[By Month](#)

August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29 Bio BSCS Field Test Training	30 Bio BSCS Field Test Training	31 Bio BSCS Field Test Training	1
2	3	4	5	6 Bio BSCS Field Test Planning	7	8
9	10 First Day of School!	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Notes:

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9 Second Wednesday PD - BSCS Science Fair Collaborative?	10	11	12
13	14	15 STL Meeting - <i>Interested in being a Science Teacher Leader? Reach out to Herbie.</i>	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 PD Day Site Based	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

Notes:

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 In Lieu of Lincoln's Birthday	13 2nd Minimester Begins	14 Second Wednesday PD - BSCS	15	16	17
18	19	20 STL Meeting	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Notes:

November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14
15	16	17 STL Meeting	18	19	20	21
22	23 T h a n	24 k s g i	25 v i n g	26 B r e	27 a k !	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Notes:

December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5 BSCS Hold
6	7	8	9 Second Wednesday PD - BSCS	10	11	12
13	14	15 STL Meeting	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 W i	23 n t	24 e r	25	26
27	28	29 B r	30 e a	31 k !	1	2

Notes:

January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4 3rd Minimester Begins	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Second Wednesday PD - BSCS Science Fair Collaborative?	14	15	16
17	18 MLK Jr. Day	19 Sex Ed Week STL Meeting	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Notes:

February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Second Wednesday PD - BSCS	11	12	13
14	15 Presidents' Day	16 STL Meeting	17	18	19 PD Day Site Based	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6

Notes:

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Second Wednesday PD - BSCS	11	12	13
14	15 4th Minimester Begins	16 STL Meeting	17	18	19	20
21	22 Sex Ed Week	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 In Lieu of Cesar Chavez Day	30	31	1	2	3

Notes:

Back to [Introduction](#), Calendar by [Month](#), or Calendar by [Week](#)

Additional Calendars: [2020-21 OUSD School Year Calendar](#)

www.ousd.org/science

April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 In Lieu of Cesar Chavez Day	30	31	1	2	3
4	5 S p	6 r i n	7 g B	8 r e a	9 k !	10
11	12 CAST Window Opens?	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 STL Meeting	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

Notes:

May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Wellness Day	11	12	13	14 CAST Window Closes?	15
16	17 Tentative OSEF week →	18 → STL Meeting?	19 →	20 →	21 →	22
23	24	25	26	27 Last Day of School!	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day	1	2	3	4	5

Notes:

By Week

Links for each unit will take you to the Distance Learning Guidance [NEED TO LINK WILL BE UP AUGUST 10TH].

		Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Week 1	8/10	Building Culture and Establishing Distance Learning Structures		
Week 2	8/17			
Week 3	8/24	Unit 1 (site created) Unit 1 BSCS	Unit 1 (site created)	Unit 1(site created)
Week 4	8/31			
Week 5	9/7			
Week 6	9/14			
Week 7	9/21			
Week 8	9/28			
Week 9	10/5			
Week 10	10/12	Building Culture and Establishing Distance Learning Structures		
Week 11	10/19	Unit 1 (site created - repeat) Unit 1 BSCS (repeat)	Unit 1 (site created - repeat)	Unit 1 (site created - repeat)
Week 12	10/26			
Week 13	11/2			
Week 14	11/9			

Week 15	11/16			
	11/23	Thanksgiving Break		
Week 16	11/30			
Week 17	12/7			
Week 18	12/14			
	12/21	Holiday Break		
	12/28			
Week 19	1/4	Building Culture and Establishing Distance Learning Structures		
Week 20	1/11			
Week 21	1/18	Sex Ed Week (9)		
Week 22	1/25	Unit 2 (site created) Unit BSCS 3 or 4	Unit 2 (site created)	Unit 2 (site created)
Week 23	2/1			
Week 24	2/8			
Week 25	2/15			
Week 26	2/22			
Week 27	3/1			
Week 28	3/8			
Week 29	3/15			
		Building Culture and Establishing Distance Learning Structures		

Week 30	3/22	Sex Ed Week (9)		
Week 31	3/29	Unit 2 (site created - repeat) Unit BSCS 3 or 4 - repeat	Unit 2 (site created - repeat)	Unit 2 (site created - repeat)
	4/5	Spring Break		
Week 32	4/12	Unit 2 (site created - repeat) Unit BSCS 3 or 4 - repeat	Unit 2 (site created - repeat)	Unit 2 (site created - repeat)
Week 33	4/19			
Week 34	4/20			
Week 35	4/26			
Week 36	5/3			
Week 37	5/10			
Week 38	5/17			
Week 39	5/24			