

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
Los Angeles Unified School District
Division of Instruction

TO: Middle School Principals

DATE: May 29, 2018

FROM: Derrick Chau, Ph.D. *DC*
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Administrator, Middle School Instruction

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF MIDDLE SCHOOL NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS COURSES

The purpose of this correspondence is to communicate the plan to transition all middle and span schools to the Integrated Model science courses for middle grades in 2019. The district has selected the Integrated Model described in the *California Science Framework (2017)* to replace the current grade 6-8 core science courses. *The California Science Framework (2017)* offers an Integrated Model for middle grades instruction that calls for the learning of life, earth, and physical science concepts every year. All middle and span schools are expected to select the new integrated science courses from MiSiS for the 2018 – 2019 school year. Here are the titles and numbers of the new integrated science courses for the middle grades.

- Integrated Science 6AB: 360301/360302
- Integrated Science 7: 360303
- Integrated Science 8AB: 360305/360308

Other Middle School Science Courses

All elective middle school science courses must be rewritten to align with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) by the fall of 2020. The Division of Instruction will provide guidance and support on that process to schools that have submitted courses previously (See BUL-3697.4, *Procedures for New or Experimental Course Submission*, dated November 18, 2015). Schools may continue to write and submit new courses to address the needs of their students. All newly-submitted courses must be aligned to the NGSS.

Professional Development

Professional development, both face-to-face and virtual, will be provided throughout the 2018-2019 school year to facilitate the transition to the Integrated Model. Please see the Division of Instruction monthly Instructional Updates and Local District websites for updated offerings.

Waiver from the Integrated Model

Schools that choose to adopt an alternative course sequence from the Integrated Model must develop and submit new NGSS courses as an alternative. The request must be approved through the existing course submission process (See BUL-3697.4, *Procedures for New or Experimental Course Submission*, dated November 18, 2015). It must include the following:

1. List of the alternative course titles your school is planning to offer instead of the integrated courses.
2. A research-based argument on why the selected courses best support student learning.
3. An instructional plan in place to support students transitioning from Integrated Model during mid-year or in grades 7 or 8. The goal of the instructional plan is to remedy any instructional gaps the transition between schools might create.

For questions please contact Ayham Dahi, the Division of Instruction Secondary Science Coordinator at (213)-241-6876 or via email at ayham.dahi@lausd.net.

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