WCAS Content Review Work Group

Purpose: Ensure every scenario, item, and rubric is scientifically accurate, aligned to the Washington State 2013 K-12 Science Learning Standards (NGSS), adheres to the WCAS item specifications, and gathers valid evidence of learning.

Meeting Specifications: Each cluster and standalone item is reviewed in depth, averaging two (2) clusters or six (6) standalones per day.

Work Group Roles:

Educators
- Provide classroom and grade-level expertise
- Evaluate each item and cluster based on scientific accuracy and experience with students
- Maintain confidentiality of clusters

OSPI and Vendor
- Provide training on item cluster development
- Facilitate discussions and decision-making
- Lead discussions about stimuli, items, and rubrics
- Ensure stimuli, items, and rubrics are accepted in a correctly edited methodology
- Revise artwork after content review meeting based on educator feedback
- Maintain confidentiality of clusters

Process: For each cluster and standalone item:
1. OSPI reads the item aloud to the workgroup.
   - The workgroup will have secure hard copies of the clusters in binders while digital versions are displayed on screen to mirror student experience.
2. Individually read the PE and Item Specification for the cluster.
   - Refer to the relevant parts of A Framework for K-12 Science Education and NGSS Appendices E, F, G as needed.
3. Individually re-read the cluster and respond to each item.
4. Individually record initial alignment judgements in pencil on the Cluster Alignment Sheet and the Item Alignment sheets. Judgements can be updated during steps 7 and 8.
5. As a group, discuss the stimulus and recommend changes that could be made.
6. As a group, discuss each item/rubric and recommend changes that could be made.
7. Review and approve the edited stimuli, items, and rubrics.
8. Discuss the items and cluster as a whole and accept/revise/reject.

Concurrent with content review, a separate committee of community members reviews the items and stimuli for any bias and sensitivity issues. Recommendations from the Bias and Sensitivity committee are incorporated by the Content Review work group

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