



New Fairfield Public Schools Textbook Adoption Form

"Textbooks are defined as that resource which provides 50% or more of the information upon which the program of instruction is based." (policy 6161)

Date of Recommendation: May 22, 2023

Staff Members Making the Recommendation: Amy Twitchell, Dawn Ryan, Rachel Wilson, Casey Olsen, Kate Lowry

Course: Middle School Science

Grade(s): 6-8

Title: Mosa Mack Science

Author(s): Lissa Johnson, Lauren Stoll, Maafi Gueye, Tal McThenia,

Publisher: Mosa Mack Science, INC

Publication Date: launched 2013

Reading Level: The Lexile Level of the resource is roughly at the 5th grade level

Price per book and the number needed: interactive inquiry-based digital platform subscription - 490 subscriptions @ \$9.16

Support for the Recommended Textbook:

The MS science department has been researching a new resource to replace the HMH Science Dimensions program. After reviewing multiple resources and piloting two this year, the department chose Mosa Mack for its engagement and user friendly platform.

Content

1. Describe how the selected textbook is aligned with course curriculum and content standards.

The resource is designed around the Next Gen Science standards and uses design thinking principles to spark engagement for middle school students. There are clearly articulated units that align with our current curriculum.

2. Describe the accuracy and timeliness of the selected textbook.

The resource is accurate and includes all the standards required to teach at the middle level. It is a digital platform that is updated regularly.

3. Describe how the textbook handles varying perspectives and points of view and demonstrates an unbiased approach to the content.

Mosa Mack Science is built around the Next Generation Science Standards so it specifically sticks to the evidence statements to guide the development of units. With topics such as climate change and evolution, the resource presents students with data, and asks them to come up with their own conclusions. This approach supports varying perspectives and an unbiased approach to content.

Instructional Match

4. Describe how the selected textbook supports our Vision of the Graduate and model of high-quality instruction.

The resource was designed to engage students in their learning through inquiry. It was developed by a middle school teacher looking to change the way students learn science. Moving away from lecture type video to problem solving mysteries, students practice being critical and creative thinkers as well as problem solvers when learning science.

5. Describe elements of the textbook

The online experience for students uses visually engaging design and practice. Teachers can assign steps in chunks to help students move through a lab or mystery.

Accessibility

6. Describe the text features and supplemental materials that provide enhanced accessibility.

Engineering Design Challenges with

- Animated Mysteries
- Comic Book Mysteries
- Graphic Organizers
- Hands-on Activities
- Vocabulary Activities

Lesson Plans/Standards Alignment for teachers using the 3 dimensions of science - engineering practices (SEPs), the crosscutting concepts (CCCs) and the disciplinary core ideas (DCIs)

7. What is the readability level of the textbook?

Approximately grade 5 lexile level

8. Describe how the textbook reflects diversity and inclusion regarding culture, gender, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, education, and religion.

Mosa Mack Science was created to promote diversity in science education. Mosa Mack is a teenager who is not "your average scientist." Instead of lecturing students about science, Mosa Mack models how to think through scientific problems using questioning skills. Throughout each mystery, students will be exposed to characters of varying backgrounds so that the resource promotes diversity and welcomes all students into science.

9. Describe the supplementary materials that accompany the textbook and explain how they support student learning. Describe any errors or glitches that were encountered.

Mosa Mack Science includes phenomena videos, mysteries, labs and engineering challenges. There are no errors on the platform at this time. However, the resource has a live chat button on the site and can support teachers in real time.

Other Textbooks Reviewed: (if less than 2 others, explain)

1. OpenSciEd
2. FOSS Science
3. Inspire Science by McGrawHill

Teachers

Date

Department Chair (if applicable)

Date

Principal

Date

Director of Curriculum or Assistant Superintendent

Date