BSCS Session Schedule

LI-1: Real Stories, Real Promise: HQIM Implementation Challenges and Wins

LEADERS INSTITUTE

Wednesday, April 15 • 8:15 a.m.–3:15 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 209 A

Presenters: Jody Bintz (BSCS), Jenine Cotton-Proby (BSCS)

This LI brings district leaders together to share practical insights, challenges, and proven strategies for supporting the effective and sustained implementation of HQIM. Participants will explore how BSCS's Curriculum Implementation Model can guide critical leadership actions to ensure teachers are prepared to use HQIM to deliver meaningful learning experiences for all students.

PLI-1: Flippers, Phenomena, and a Fully Released Curriculum: Making a Splash in Elementary Science

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING INSTITUTE

Wednesday, April 15 • 8:15 a.m.–3:15 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 201 D

Presenters: Amy Belcastro (BSCS), Guy Ollison (BSCS), Yanira Vasquez (NSTA)

Explore the newly released elementary OpenSciEd curriculum through a 3rd grade unit on why living things live where they do, grounded in real-world phenomena like manatees and dolphins. Experience how coherent storylines, classroom discussion, and inclusive routines support all students in making sense of science.

BSCS Session Schedule

PLI-4: Sensemaking Supports All! Empowering Multilingual Learners through Science

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING INSTITUTE

Wednesday, April 15 • 8:15 a.m.–3:15 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 204 A

Presenters: Janna Mahfoud (BSCS), Susan Gomez Zwiep (BSCS)

Examine instructional strategies that support multilingual learners in engaging deeply with high-quality science instruction. Through lesson examples and classroom video, learn how intentional routines and curriculum design promote both language development and science sensemaking.

Using Societal Challenges as Phenomena in 3D Units to Develop Student Agency

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Thursday, April 16 • 8–9 a.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 262 A, North Building

Speaker: Cynthia Gay (BSCS)

Experience how using complex, culturally relevant societal challenges as phenomena increases student motivation, agency, and engagement in three-dimensional science learning. Learn how the Anchored Inquiry Learning (AIL) model supports coherent sensemaking through real-world challenges such as antibiotic resistance, heart disease, food sustainability, and biodiversity change.

BSCS Session Schedule

Supporting Leaders: Furthering NGSS implementation using High Quality Instructional Materials Across Multiple Contexts

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Thursday, April 16 • 8–9 a.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 209 A

Speakers: Guy Ollison (BSCS), Jenine Cotton-Proby (BSCS), Nancy Hopkins-Evans (BSCS)

Learn how leaders can support NGSS implementation by leveraging high-quality instructional materials through teacher-centered professional learning. Explore strategies and tools from a state–district partnership that strengthened three-dimensional, phenomenon-driven instruction across multiple contexts.

Lay the Foundation for K-12 HQIM: Be a Champion for Equity

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Thursday, April 16 • 12:30–2:00 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 209 A

Speaker: Jody Bintz (BSCS)

Gain practical guidance for building and leading collaborative teams that support equitable, effective implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM). Leaders will leave with a clear understanding of the phases of curriculum implementation and how their roles, from selection through sustained use, can drive meaningful instructional improvement.

BSCS Session Schedule

Science in Every Voice: Teaching for Cultural and Linguistic Sensemaking

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Thursday, April 16 • 1–2 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 204 C

Speakers: Susan Gomez Zwiep (BSCS), Rachel Myers (The Learning Agency)

This hands-on workshop explores how culturally and linguistically responsive science teaching can support all students as active sensemakers. Participants will look at practical strategies to leverage students' language and lived experiences to foster equitable, engaging, and rigorous science learning.

Supporting multilingual learners in doing science and using language

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Thursday, April 16 • 2:20–3:20 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 204 A

Speakers: Susan Gomez Zwiep (BSCS), Samuel Lee (California State University)

Explore strategies for supporting multilingual learners as they engage in science practices and use language to make sense of phenomena. Through analysis of classroom examples, educators will consider practical ways to adapt instruction for more inclusive, meaningful scientific inquiry.

BSCS Session Schedule

Customization of HQIM: How can we strengthen instructional materials for our local context?

PRESENTATION

Thursday, April 16 • 2:20–3:20 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 209 A

Speaker: Molly Leifeld (Saint Paul Public Schools)

Learn when and how to customize high-quality instructional materials using district examples from Saint Paul Public Schools and BSCS's work with OpenSciEd. Decision makers will leave with clear criteria for approving modifications while maintaining coherence, standards alignment, and student engagement.

OpenSciEd Assessments: Supporting Students, Teachers, and Classroom Community

PRESENTATION

Thursday, April 16 • 2:20–3:20 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 201 D

Speakers: Amy Belcastro (BSCS), Gen Zoufal (Northwestern University), Gail Housman (Northwestern University)

How can assessments support three dimensional sensemaking? Explore how the OpenSciEd Elementary assessment system illuminates the brilliance and strengths of students, teachers, and classroom communities as they figure out science ideas.

BSCS Session Schedule

Empowering Changemakers: Urban Biodiversity Initiative for Teachers and Youth

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Friday, April 17 • 8–9 a.m.

Anaheim Marriott – Grand Ballroom J/K

Speakers: Susan Gomez Zwiep (BSCS), Jill Grace (WestED)

Dive into how teachers, students, and scientists can collaborate through NGSS storylines to tackle local biodiversity challenges by amplifying student voice, inspiring community action, and deepening learning.

Enhancing Multilingual Learners' Language Use for Scientific Sensemaking

PRESENTATION

Friday, April 17 • 9:20–10:20 a.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 201 D

Speaker: Susan Gomez Zwiep (BSCS)

This presentation takes a look at instructional approaches and teacher moves that invite multilingual learners to use their full range of meaning-making resources through collaborative sensemaking routines. Educators will leave with practical tools to elevate student thinking and create classrooms where multilingual learners shine as capable scientific thinkers.

BSCS Session Schedule

Shared Vision: What does equitable teaching and learning look like in a student-centered classroom?

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Friday, April 17 • 9:20–10:20 a.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 209 A

Speaker: Cynthia Gay (BSCS)

This leadership workshop examines how the BSCS Anchored Inquiry Learning (AIL) model brings together elements of the 5E instructional model, NextGen Science storylines, and problem-based learning to create coherent, authentic science experiences grounded in phenomena. Participants will consider how using AIL in instructional materials design can help leaders foster a shared vision of equitable, student-centered science teaching and support teachers in putting that vision into practice.

Select and Plan for Use of K-12 HQIM: Equity by Design

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOP

Friday, April 17 • 10:40 a.m.–12:10 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 209 A

Speaker: Jenine Cotton-Proby (BSCS)

This workshop guides educators through planning for broad and effective implementation of HQIM with an explicit focus on systemic equity. Participants will consider how high-quality materials can be used intentionally to design more equitable instructional systems.

BSCS Session Schedule

Coaching to elevate and expand language during science instruction

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Friday, April 17 • 10:40–11:40 a.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 213 B

Speaker: Janna Mahfoud (BSCS)

This hands-on workshop explores how instructional leaders can coach teachers to intentionally elevate and expand multilingual learners' language during discourse-rich, 3D science instruction so that language supports strengthen inquiry-based science learning.

Use and Scale Up of HQIM across the K-12 System: Ensuring Equity

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Friday, April 17 • 1:00–2:30 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 209 A

Speaker: Jody Bintz (BSCS)

Participants will delve into one district's efforts to enact and monitor a systemwide implementation plan, incorporating curriculum-based professional learning and system drivers to support equitable outcomes. Leaders will walk away with practical approaches for supporting teacher practice shifts to improve student learning.

BSCS Session Schedule

Classroom Discussions: Supporting Students to Share and Discuss Ideas

PRESENTATION

Friday, April 17 • 1:20–2:20 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 201 D

Speakers: Amy Belcastro (BSCS), Guy Ollison (BSCS)

In this workshop, attendees engage with an elementary unit to see how purposeful classroom discussions help students share ideas, build understanding, and reach consensus. Educators will learn strategies to support all students' participation in collective sensemaking.

Leadership Matters; Strategic Partnering to Support Implementation of HQIM

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOP

Friday, April 17 • 2:40–4:40 p.m.

Anaheim Marriott – Platinum Ballroom 9

Speakers: Zoë Buck Bracey (BSCS), Douglas Watkins (Denver Public Schools), Shannan Pullara (Denver Public Schools), Nancy Hopkins-Evans (BSCS), Kate Henson (inquiryHub), Elizabeth Johnston (Denver Public Schools), Keyerria Howard (UC Boulder)

Presenters will share how district leadership teams strategically partner to plan and implement high-quality instructional materials across middle and high schools. The session includes common professional learning experiences and resources that help teams build coherence and collaboration for successful implementation.

BSCS Session Schedule

Math as a Tool for Science Sensemaking

PRESENTATION

Friday, April 17 • 2:40–3:40 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 201 D

Speakers: Guy Ollison (BSCS), Amy Belcastro (BSCS)

This presentation demonstrates how mathematics and data practices are integrated into OpenSciEd Elementary units to support students in analyzing patterns, interpreting data, and deepening science understanding. Educators will experience how math becomes a meaningful tool for science sensemaking and supports a range of learners.

Sustained and Effective Use of HQIM across the K-12 System: Making it Stick

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOP

Friday, April 17 • 2:40–3:40 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 209 A

Speaker: Jenine Cotton-Proby (BSCS)

Participants examine strategies for sustaining HQIM implementation by collecting and using data to inform leadership decision-making and support teacher practice. The session highlights how tracking implementation efforts can strengthen instructional quality and student learning outcomes over time.

BSCS Session Schedule

Evaluating Health Risks: Opportunities for Student Learning and Action

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 18 • 8–10 a.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 210 D

Speaker: Cynthia Gay (BSCS)

This Saturday workshop uses genetic and environmental health risk phenomena to show how Anchored Inquiry Learning builds student agency through real-world science investigations. Educators will explore how complex societal issues can frame meaningful 3D learning and motivate students toward action.

Use AI tools to Identify Phenomena to Anchor Instruction or Assessment

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 18 • 11:40 a.m.–12:40 p.m.

Anaheim Convention Center – 210 D

Speaker: Greg Benedis-Grab (UC Boulder)

Attendees will use AI tools from the 5D assessment project to generate and refine NGSS-aligned phenomena that anchor 3D instruction and assessment while meaningfully connecting to students' interests and identities.