



National Science Resources Center

THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES  Smithsonian Institution

LASER Secondary School Science Education Strategic Planning Institute

Goals

Participants in a LASER Secondary School Science Education Strategic Planning Institute will explore emerging models for, and current research on, middle school reform, and will apply those models and research to their strategic planning effort. Through a four-day program of interactive workshops and discussions, leadership teams will—

- **Address issues related to secondary school science teaching and learning.**
- **Explore with educational leaders the current research on how secondary school students learn and develop.**
- **Examine exemplary inquiry-centered secondary school science curricula that help improve classroom teaching and learning.**
- **Address the five elements of reform through the lens of secondary school science:**
 - Curriculum—Science curricula that are based on the National Science Education Standards and are produced through a careful research and development process.
 - Professional Development—Programs that prepare educators to teach inquiry-centered science and that consider professional growth to be a long term process.
 - Materials Support—Cost effective systems for supplying science equipment and materials to classrooms.
 - Assessment—Strategies that align the evaluation of student performance with the goals of an inquiry-centered science program.
 - Administrative and Community Support—Strategies for building and sustaining district and community support.
- **Receive technical assistance in the strategic planning process.**
- **Network with others involved in secondary school science education reform**