

# NEW YORK ECLIPSE

ENHANCING COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP  
FOR IMPROVED PERFORMANCE IN  
SCIENCE EDUCATION

*Leadership Conference:  
Building Capacity with  
Key Leaders and Stakeholders*



OCTOBER 24–25, 2007  
CROWNE PLAZA ALBANY  
STATE AND LODGE STREETS  
ALBANY, NEW YORK



University of the State of New York  
State Education Department

*National Science Resources Center*

THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES  Smithsonian Institution

# NEW YORK ECLIPSE

## *Leadership Conference: Building Capacity with Key Leaders and Stakeholders*

The New York State Education Department (NYSED), in partnership with the National Science Resources Center (NSRC), is implementing a multi-year science education systemic change initiative that will build upon leadership within New York State school districts. This initiative will provide research-based products and services to assist New York State school districts in initiating, implementing, and sustaining effective inquiry-centered pre-kindergarten through grade twelve science programs for all students.

### Conference Goals

Implementing and sustaining innovative science programs takes time and requires focused knowledge and skills. Capable, well-informed leadership is critical. This professional development conference for leaders will provide opportunities for active engagement, discussion, and reflection. The focus of this conference will be on the skills necessary to engage the people who work with you and for you to:

- **Manage Change**  
Explore tactics for sustaining organizational and systematic change in science education.
- **Develop Capacity to Lead Professional Development**  
Develop capacity for leading professional development in science education at the local, regional, and state levels.
- **Monitor Success**  
Prepare leaders to examine progress and identify successes of science instructional, curricular, and assessment programming by collecting, synthesizing, and analyzing relevant data.
- **Garner Support from the Community**  
Expand strategies to garner support from the community of science stakeholders including local school districts, higher education, business and industry, and state and federal government agencies to build capacity at the local, regional, and state levels.

The sessions will address these four principal topics, which have been found to be essential components of successful transitions from textbook-based to research-based science programs.



### Who Should Attend



*The team for this leadership conference must be the same as the team sent from your district for the first three New York ECLIPSE events.* Team members consist of stakeholders in science education who demonstrate collectively the skills, commitment, and credibility to lead and sustain a district-wide, regional, and community-supported initiative. The three previous events have laid the groundwork for teams to begin implementing strategic plans for systemic redesign and improvement of science education programs in their districts. The NYSED is committed to building a professional learning community to support this mission.

## Participating Leadership Teams

### Buffalo Public Schools

District Superintendent—*James Williams*

### Capital Region BOCES

Interim District Superintendent—*James N. Baldwin*

### New York City Department of Education

Chancellor—*Joel I. Klein*

### Onondaga–Cortland–Madison BOCES

District Superintendent—*Jessica Cohen*

### Rochester City School District

Interim District Superintendent—*William Cala*

### Syracuse City School District

District Superintendent—*Daniel Lowengard*

### Western Suffolk BOCES

Interim District Superintendent—*James Mapes*

### Washington–Saratoga–Warren–Hamilton–Essex BOCES

District Superintendent—*John Stoothoff*

### Yonkers Public Schools

District Superintendent—*Bernard Pierorazio*

## When?

October 24–25, 2007

## Where?

Crowne Plaza Albany  
State and Lodge Streets  
Albany, New York

## Program

### October 24

- 6:00 P.M. Registration/Reception and Networking
- 7:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 7:15 Managing Change
- 8:00 Desserts
- 8:20 Topic Report-outs and Team Reflection Time
- 9:20 Scaling-Up NY ECLIPSE
- 9:30 Adjourn

### October 25

- 7:00 A.M. Full Breakfast
- 7:45 Opening Remarks: “Day at a Glance”
- 8:15 Measuring Success
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Scaling-Up Panel
- 12:00 Lunch (Seated)
- 12:45 Luncheon Speaker: Jay Engeln—Business/School Partnerships
- 1:45 Leadership Discussions
- 2:45 Team Time for Scaling-Up
- 3:45 Final Activity and Remarks
- 4:00 Adjourn

In his book *Leadership and Sustainability: System Thinkers in Action*, **Michael Fullan** discusses leadership at the systemic level and the dual roles that leaders need to play. One role is the opportunity to make system coherence more evident and accessible. The other is to foster interaction—horizontally and vertically—to promote system thinking in others. Opportunities to look more closely at some of these competencies are needed for this kind of systemic leadership and leadership needed to create an environment for learning and change.

In addition to understanding these competencies, leaders need to understand the conceptual framework for helping school districts build a local infrastructure or system to support an effective inquiry-centered science education program. School districts must develop leadership competency for

- managing change;
- developing capacity for leading professional development;
- monitoring the success of the program;
- providing materials to teachers and students; and
- garnering support from the community.

“Being an expert in new science curriculum is not the same as being an expert in the process of change.”

—*Michael Fullan, author*  
*Leadership and Sustainability: System Thinkers in Action*



## NEW YORK ECLIPSE

**The New York ECLIPSE Science Leadership Conference: Building Capacity with Key Leaders and Stakeholders** is the last in a series of four coordinated events for leadership teams. These events are guiding the leadership teams through a research-based approach to learning and teaching science. The first three events in this series were:

- October 25–26, 2006**    **New York ECLIPSE Leadership Conference: Building Awareness with Key Leaders and Stakeholders**  
*The leadership teams were introduced to a new vision for science learning and teaching, and to the necessary systemic and systematic approaches to support this vision.*
- March 21, 2007**        **New York ECLIPSE Science Curriculum Showcase**  
*Leadership teams learned about exemplary, research-based science curricula.*
- June 25–29, 2007**    **New York ECLIPSE Strategic Planning Institute**  
*Leadership teams developed a tailored strategic plan for initiating, implementing, and sustaining effective PreK–12 science education for the leadership team's district.*

**The New York State Education Department** provides leadership for a system that yields the best-educated people in the world by raising the knowledge, skill, and opportunity of all the people in New York. **The New York State Science Initiative**, <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sciinit.doc>, seeks to create a statewide learning community to support student achievement of the learning standards in science, leading to a scientifically literate population. The vision of the State's Science Initiative is to ensure learning in science for all PreK–12 students by providing equitable access to exemplary teachers, inquiry-centered curriculum and instruction, standards-based assessments, and a wealth of resources and community support.

New York State Education Department—<http://www.nysed.gov>  
Office of Elementary, Middle, Secondary and Continuing Education—<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov>  
Office of Curriculum and Instructional Support—<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/cis/>  
Curriculum, Instruction and Instructional Technology—<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/>  
Science Curriculum Homepage—<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci.html>  
New York ECLIPSE Homepage—<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/NYEclipse/EclipseHome.html>  
New York State Education Department Virtual Learning System—<http://www.nysvls.org>

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**The National Science Resources Center** was established in 1985 by the **Smithsonian Institution** and the **National Academies** to improve the learning and teaching of science for all children in the United States and throughout the world. The prestige and credibility of these two world-renowned institutions provide the NSRC with access to research, scientific expertise, and resources to inform our work, as well as an opportunity to engage and catalyze educators, business people, and scientists in all aspects of science education reform.



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