NMPED Science Curriculum Review of Evidence

Curriculum Name: Science A Closer Look

Publisher: Macmillan/McGraw-Hill
Number of Studies Submitted: 3 (see note below)
Number of Studies Reviewed: 3
Grade(s) of Studies Reviewed: 1-5

Average Rubric Ratings:

Criteria	Average Rating Across All Studies
Experimental Design	1
Sample	1.5
Methodology	1
Measures	1
Studies	1
Reporting Results	1
Investigators	2
Total Score	8.5
Average Subscale Score	1.21

Narrative:
Macmillan/McGraw-Hill (MMH) provided three types of documents as support for the new *Science A Closer Look* curriculum:

- An implementation study using teacher logs, teacher surveys, and classroom observations (Westat conducted a formative evaluation of the use of the MMH Science 2005 curriculum to determine the extent to which various features of the curriculum were being used);
- A report summarizing the research used in design and development of *Science A Closer Look* (bibliography of research, field study data on the prior Macmillan Science series, review of results from long term implementation studies, review of state test score results from districts using MMH Science); and
- A report on the impact of NCLB on science education with scientific research references from the impact of MMH Science (research that identifies critical success factors to track during a new science text adoption, as well as provides a basis for determining the impact of the MMH textual materials on student test scores in elementary science).

Note: The publisher also submitted several documents from a research alignment done on MMH *2008 California Science*. The study was done by Westat at the request of MMH. The study was not an effectiveness study, but rather the purpose was to align the content, teaching strategies, assessment, and technology in the program with a series of research-based guiding questions, the *California Science Standards* of 1998, and the *California Science Framework* of 2004.

Overall Quantity and Quality of Evidence:
The only full study submitted for review was an implementation study, not a study providing evidence of effectiveness. This study was completed by a third party. Otherwise reports included an executive summary of field studies and efficacy studies without full information on methodology. It appears that the publisher completed the studies referenced in the reports. All study information was on prior MMH Science series, and was used as a basis in the development of *Science A Closer Look.* Based on the full study, there is potentially promising evidence for *Science A Closer Look*.

References of Submitted Studies:

Westat (2006). Evaluation of Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Science 2005 Curriculum in Charlotte-Mecklenburg: Report on Results of Data from Teacher Logs, Teacher Surveys, and Classroom Observations

Macmillan/McGraw-Hill (n.d.). Macmillan/McGraw-Hill *Science A Closer Look* 2011. (Document summarizing research efforts in design of *Science A Closer Look* 2011)

Macmillan/McGraw-Hill (n.d.). *The Impact of No Child Left Behind on Science Education*

Macmillan/McGraw-Hill (August 2006). Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Science *2008 California Science*: A Westat Research Alignment.