



# Santa Barbara School Districts

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Date: March 5, 2008

To: Dr. J. Brian Sarvis, Superintendent

From: Robin Sawaske, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education *RS*

Subject: Approval of Elementary Science Instructional Materials Adoption of Houghton Mifflin Publishers for Kindergarten Through Sixth Grades.

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## Background:

In accordance with the California Department of Education suggested textbook adoption cycle, the current adoption involves science instructional materials. On a regular basis, instructional materials are reviewed, and when appropriate, recommended for adoption by the Santa Barbara School Districts Board of Education. Materials deemed appropriate for submission to the Board of Education are then placed on public display in the district office.

During the 2007-2008 school year, teachers from the Science Selection Committee met with publishers and used the WestED AIMS selection process to review materials. The committee selected Houghton Mifflin Publishers with input from all teachers at their site. The Houghton Mifflin Program was designed to provide students with a solid understanding of the California Science Framework standards. Throughout the program, the grade level content standards and the National Standards for Science are covered in a variety of formats and locations. Each lesson provides for hands-on science experimentation, language and vocabulary support, English learner/universal access support, and comprehensive science instruction.

## Plan:

The Board of Education and the public have had two weeks to review and submit questions or concerns regarding the instructional materials selection for science. The materials have been available in the district office first floor conference. The board will adopt the materials for implementation in the 2008-2009 school year.

## Fiscal Impact and Funding Source:

There is no fiscal impact to the Unrestricted General Fund. State Instructional Materials Funding and Restricted Lottery Funding will be used to purchase materials for all kindergarten through sixth grade classrooms. The funding amount will be approximately \$322,506.00 for the adoption of these materials.

## Recommendation:

The Board of Education approve the adoption of elementary science materials by Houghton Mifflin Publishers.