#### 2015 National Science Curriculum & School Assessment in Korea Searching for Creativity & Integration (創意•融合)



STEAM = Science & Technology interpreted through Engineering & the Arts, all based in Mathematical elements.

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## **Outline of Presentation**

- 1. Overview of Korean Education
- 2. 2015 National Science Curriculum
- 3. School Assessment for Science
- 4. Summary & Conclusion

#### 1. Overview of Korean Education

#### Background of South Korea

- Divided from North Korea since 1945
- Population : 50.6 millions
- Area : 100 thousand km<sup>2</sup>
- Ration of Mountain Area : 70%
- Population Density : 518 / km<sup>2</sup> (2014)
- GDP per capita : USD 28,338 (2014)
- Weather : Four Seasons, Rain 1, 245 mm/yr
- Industry : IT, Electronics, Heavy Industry
- Birth Rate : 1.2 babies, world lowest (2014)
- Ratio of R&D Expenditure to GDP : 4.29% (2014)



#### Where is it? Why are they here?



#### Outline of Korean Education (2015)

- (School System)
- (Academic Year)
- (Compulsory Education)
   9 y
- (Ratio entering Higher Ed.) 70.8%
- (Higher Ed.)
- (Teacher Ed.)
- (IMD 教育競爭力)
- (學級 當 學生數)
- (Teacher as a Job)
- (Educational Issues)

(3) 6-3-3-4 (2-3) system

March → February

9 years

201 Universities, 138 Colleges

教育大學(初等),師範大學(中等)

32<sup>nd</sup> in the world

初23.2, 中31.7, 高31.9

through high competition, highly respected

**STEAM** (STEM + Arts), **Creativity**, **Integration** 

#### Background Information of Korean Education

Category	Features	Data	
	Ministry	教育部 (Ministry of Education)	
Government	Advisor to the President	Senior Secretary for Education and Culture 教育文化 首席 秘書官	
	教育 行政	教育部, + 16 地方 教育廳	
	學校 行政	校長 → 校監→ 科學部長 → 教師	
	Departments	Academic, Students, Grade (1, 2, 3), Subjects (Science)	
S-1 - 1	Assessment Time	Mid. & Final term exams, Formative assessment	
School	Assessment Type	Mixture of multiple choice, essay and practical work	
	School Year	March to February	
	授業時間(分)	初 40, 中 45, 高 50	

#### General Issues of Korean Education

- Very high zeal for education (教育熱) by parents
- Very high competition (競爭率) for Best Universities (e.g. SNU, KAIST)
- Education determined by Univ. Entrance Exams. (e.g. 大學修學能力試驗)
- Parents' Heavy Reliance on Private Education (私教育)
- Excellency vs. Equity (e.g. 科學高, 外國語高 vs 一般高)
- "Education is more political than politics itself in Korea."
- 高點數 vs 低參與, 低自信感 (e.g. PISA, TIMSS) (East-Asian Disparity)

## 2. 2015 National Science Curriculum

#### Key Features of Korean Science Ed. (STEAM)

#### STEAM (STEM + Arts) (融合人材教育)



이달의 STEA	M 수업 프로	그램		더보기	STE
초등학교	중학교 고등	학교	< 0 (H)(E)	다음달>	초
· 과학 [3章	[년] 태양계와 지	구 : 태양계의 행성			
· 718 [4ª	[ <mark>년] 우주의</mark> 기원	과 진화 : 핸드폰 분광	기 만들기		
· 공항 [5호	[년] 정보통신과	신소재 : 빛의 합성과	색의 합성		
· 미술 [4호	[년] 에너지와 환	경 : 정보의 발생			<
· 수학 [3립	(년) 화학평형 : 동	광전효과와 태양전지			
· 311 [51	[년] 에너지와 환	경 : 정보의 발생			
· 기술 [6월	r년] 화학평형 : 동	광전효과와 태양전지			



- STEAM Teaching Materials
- of School Curriculum-related
- of Teacher Associations -developed
- of Leader Schools-developed
- of Research Team-developed

#### 2 Information & Data

- STEAM workshops
- -STEAM 연teacher trainings
- STEAM Books
- STEAM Research Reports
- STEAM teacher association materials
- STEAM Leader Schools materials

#### Key Features of Korean Science Ed. (STEAM)

#### Masterplan for STEAM Ed.(融合人材教育)

		2013~2014	2015~2016	2017
		持續的 擴散	高度化	現場安着
國家	教育課程	<ul> <li>Implementing STEAM in</li> <li>Developing Implementa</li> </ul>	nto National Curriculum ition Strategies into Gener	al & Subject Curriculums
水準	教科書		nto National Textbooks (G nto National Textbooks (G	-
地域	教育管理	• Implementing STEAM ir	nto School Curriculum (Ele nto Science Core School Cu Schools' Inclusion of STE/	urriculum
水準	地域 Infrastruct ure	STEAM Outreach Progra	der Schools as Local Centra ams Linked with Education ams Linked with Uni. Stude	Donation Organizations
學校	<b>教師</b> 力量强化	(all STEAM related teach	eacher Training Programs hers by 2017, 3 Teachers in hto Initial Teacher Educatio	
水準	Program 開發	Development & Distribute	ng Career Path Programs ution of Curriculum-related cience Classrooms & STEA	d STEAM Programs

#### Key Features of Korean Science Ed. (Special Schools)

#### (1) High schools for the science-gifted (科學英才學校)

- 7 schools across the country
- Special processes for recruiting students & teachers
- Very low student-teacher ratio
- (e.g. GSHS in 2015 : 90 teachers, 58 staffs, 380 students)

#### (2) Science High Schools (科學高等學校)

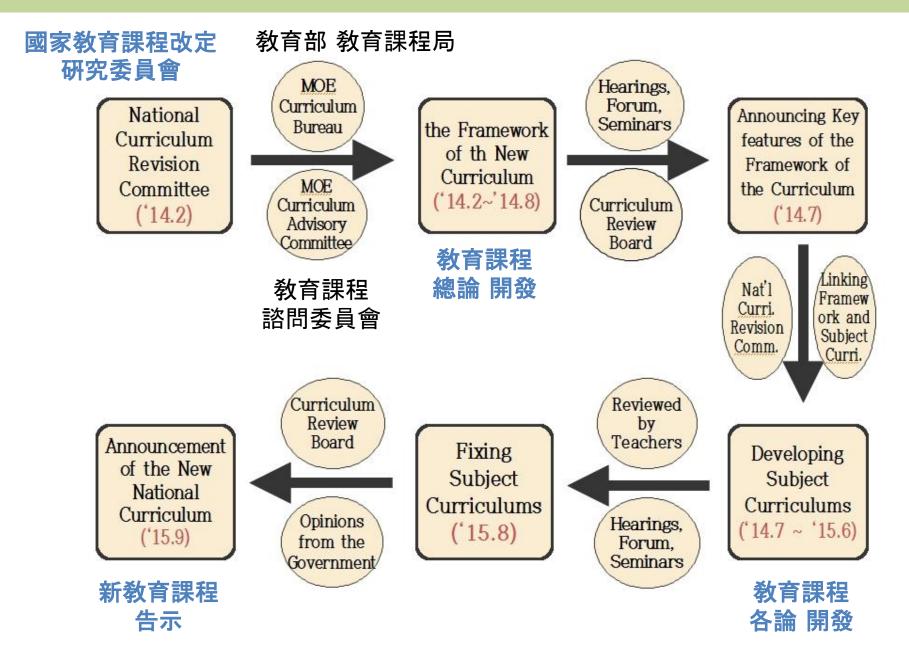
- about 20 schools across the country
- Own processes for recruiting students
- Low student-teacher ratio (e.g. SSHS in 2015 : 60 teachers, 33 staffs, 340 students)

#### (3) Science Core High Schools (科學重點學校)

- 100 schools across the country
- No special processes for recruiting students

- Ordinary high schools, but for science-core-stream students at least 50% of the whole credits should be from math & science.

#### **Revision Process of 2015 National Curriculum**



#### 2 Key Features of the 2015 National Curriculum

→ Toward a Person of Creativity & Integration type (創意融合形 人材) a Person with a balance of basic literacies in humanities, social sciences, and science & technology)

 → For an Integrated Curriculum for both the Humanity and the Science Streams
 (文科•理科 統合形 教育課程) the high school curriculum which provides the same core subjects for all students not only of the humanity stream but also of the science stream

#### High School Subjects of 2015 National Curriculum

Subject Area	Subject (Group)	Minimum Units	Core Subject (Unit)
	Korean	10	Korean (8)
Basic	Mathematics	10	Mathematics (8)
基礎	English	10	English (8)
	Korean History	6	Korean History (6)
Inquiry	Social Studies (+History & Ethics)	10	Integrated Social Studies 統合社會 (8)
探求	Science	12	Integrated Science 統合科學 (8) Inquiry & Experiment 科學探究實驗 (2)
鼬女 薪件	Physical Ed.	10	
體育 藝術	Art (Music/Fine Arts)	10	
生活 教養	Tech. & Home Eco. / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Foreign Language / Chinese / Liberals	16	
Sub-sum		94	
學校自律課程			86
創意的 體驗活動			24 (408 hours)
Total		204	

#### Aims of 2015 Science Curriculum (科學教育 目標)

Students should be taught to develop an interest and a curiosity towards natural phenomena and objects, to have understandings of key scientific concepts and to develop inquiry ability, and through these to develop scientific literacy needed to solve personal and social problems scientifically and creatively. Students are expected:

- (a) To have an interest and a curiosity towards natural phenomena and objects, and develop an attitude to solve problems scientifically,
- (b) To develop an inquiry ability for natural phenomena and everyday problems,
- (c) To understand key scientific concepts through the inquiry of natural phenomena,
- (d) To understand the inter-relationships among science, technology, and society, and further develop (scientific) literacy for democratic citizen
- (e) To develop life-long learning ability through recognizing the enjoyment of science learning and the usefulness of science.

#### Subject Competences (教科力量) of 2015 Science Curriculum



• Using ICT skills

• Rational Decision Making

#### Integrated Science (統合科學) for Grade 10 (高1)

Areas	Key Concepts	Concept Components	Skills	
Matters and Regularity 物質과 規則性	Regularity of Matters and Bonding	Elements at the beginning of universe / Emergence of elements in solar system / Emergence of solid matters of earth Metal and nonmetal / Outermost electron Ionic bond / Covalent bond	- Identifying Problems (問題認識) · Design and Doing of Inquiry (探究 設契와	
	Matters Composing the Nature	Regularity of earth's crust and life-composing matters / Elements of living organism / Main elements of living organism / Use of new materials / Electromagnetic properties	隨行) - Collection, Analysis, & Interpretation of Data	
System and	Mechanical System	Gravity / Free fall / Momentum / Impulse	(資料의 收集, 分析 및 解釋)	
Interactions 시스템과	Earth System	Circulation of energy and matters of earth system / Interaction between atmosphere and hydrosphere	- Mathematical Thinking	
相互作用	Life System	Function of cell membrane / Cell organelle / Metabolism, enzyme / Relationship between DNA and protein	and Using Computer (數學的 思考와 컴퓨터 活用)	
Changes and Diversity 變化와 多樣性	Chemical Change	Oxidation and de-oxidation Acidity and alkalinity / Use of neutralization	- Developing and Using of	
	Biodiversity and Preservation	Geographical age / Fossil, mass extinction / Evolution and biodiversity	Models (模型의 開發과 使用)	
Environment and Energy 環境과 에너지	Bio-system and Environment	Elements of ecosystem and environment / Equilibrium of ecosystem / Global warming and the change of earth environment	- Evidence-based Discussion and Argumentation (證據에 基礎한 討論과 論證) - Drawing Conclusion &	
	Divitoriment	Transformation and conservation of energy / Energy Efficiency		
	Generating Electricity and New Renewable Energy	Generator / Electric energy / Electric transmission	Assessment (結論 導出 및 評價)	
		Solar energy / Nuclear power / Sunlight generation / New renewable energy	又 評慎) - Communication of Results (意思疏通)	

# Scientific Inquiry & Experiments (科學探究實驗) for high School

Areas	Key Concepts	Concept Components	Skills
Scientific Inquiry in History	Nature of Science	Accidental discoveries / Thought experiments / Critical experiments brought paradigm shifts	- Identifying Problems (問題認識)
歴史 속의 科學探究	Inquiry Methods of Scientists	Inductive inquiry / Deductive inquiry	- Design and Doing of Inquiry (探究 設契와 隨行) - Collection, Analysis, &
		Science in products / Science in play / Science in Sports / Science in culture & arts	Interpretation of Data (資料의 收集, 分析 및 解釋)
Scientific Inquiry in	Scientific Attitudes	Interest & curiosity / Perseverance / Collaborative inquiry	- Mathematical Thinking and Using Computer (數學的 思考와 컴퓨터 活用)
Everyday Life 生活 속의		Research ethics / Safety matters	- Developing and Using of Models (模型의 開發과 使用)
科學探究	Processes of Scientific Inquiry	Identifying problems / Designing inquiry	
		Doing inquiry / Collecting and analyzing qualitative & quantitative data / Solving a problem / Creative engineering design and making tools	- Evidence-based Discussion and Argumentation (證據에 基礎한 討論과 論證)
Inquiry of Cutting Edge Science 尖端科學探 究	Applications of Science	Cutting edge sciences / Inquiry products / Cutting edge sciences of ancestors	- Drawing Conclusion & Assessment (結論 導出 및 評價) - Communication of Results (意思疏通)

## 3. School Assessment for Science

#### National Level Assessments (國家水準 學業 成就度 評價)

2015 National Level Assessment for Middle & High Schools					
Grade	Subjects	Assessment Range	Time for Test	Date	
Grade 9 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Year of	Korean, Math, English	All of 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year			
Middle School)	Social Studies, Science (Sampled Test)	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester of 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	60 minutes / subject	June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	
Grade 11 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Year of High School)	Korean, Math, English	All of 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	60 minutes / subject	(Tue.)	

- There is no National Level Assessment at elementary school level.

#### Science Assessments in Middle School

(Example) the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester of the Grade 7 (Middle School)				
Final Exams 學期末考査	Performance Assessment 修行評價			
Written Exams (35%)	Performance Assessment (30%)			
- Multiple Choice (80 points)	- Experiments (80 points)			
- Descriptive (20 points)	- Participation (10 points)			
	- Portfolio (10 points)			
	Final Exams學期末考査Written Exams (35%)- Multiple Choice (80 points)			

- Assessment is the most heaviest burden for school teachers.
- School assessment as well as university entrance assessment system are getting more complex, and now almost unbearable.
- There will be No Exams during the Free Semester (自由學期制).

#### Science Assessments in a Middle School

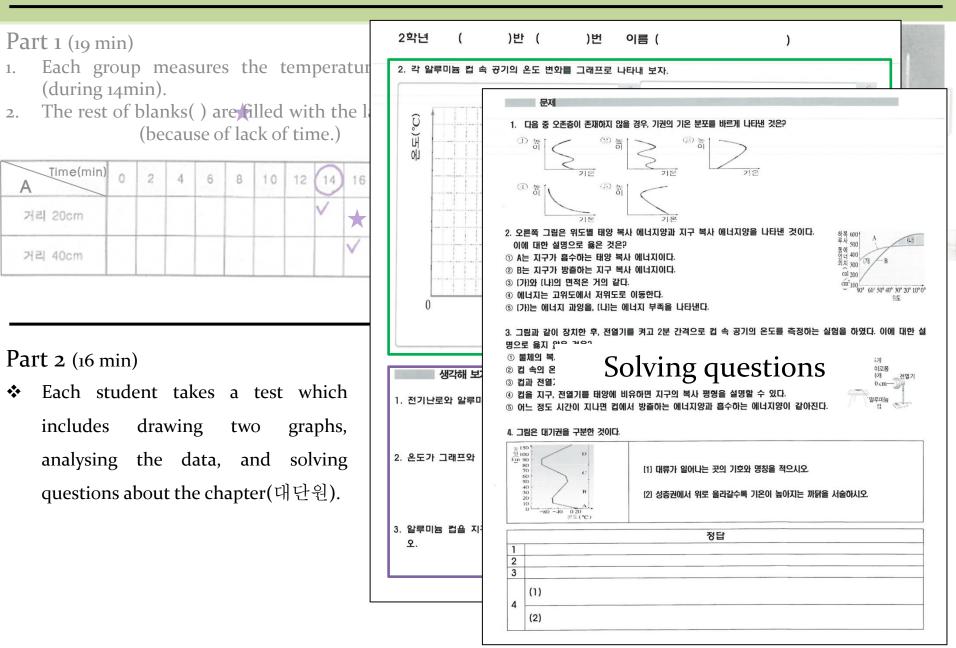
(Example) the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester of the Grade 7 (Middle School)					
Subject	<b>Performance</b> (No. of Students)	Score / Average (St. Deviation)	<b>Performance</b> (No. of Students)	Score / Average (St. Deviation)	
Korean	A (174)	97/76.9 (15.1)	A (185)	97/80.4 (14.4)	
Ethics	B (174)	84/75.0 (16.0)	C (185)	78/77.4 (15.0)	
History	A (174)	99/77.8 (17.1)	A (185)	100/78.8 (17.4)	
Math	D (174)	67/70.6 (19.8)	D (185)	65/71.7 (18.9)	
Science	E (174)	34/71.8 (20.6)	A (185)	99/72.6 (19.9)	
English	A (174)	93/74.1 (21.1)	E (185)	57/75.7 (20.2)	
Chinese	C (174)	72/77.5 (16.9)	B (185)	82/75.7 (18.0)	

(General Subjects)

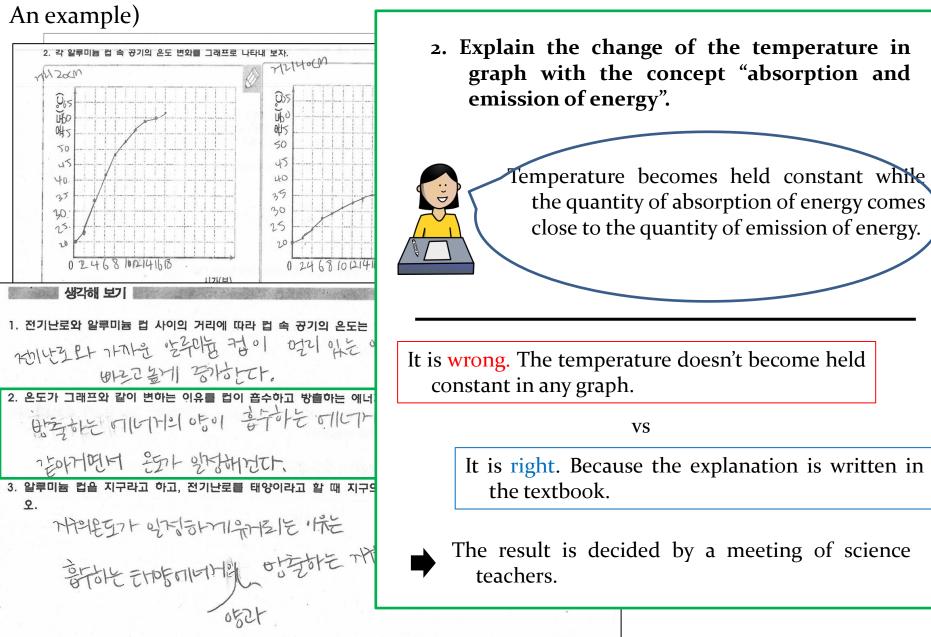
A (90% and higher), B (80% ~ under 90%), C (70% ~ under 80%), D (60% ~ under 70%), E (under 60%) (Physical Ed., Music, Art)

A (80% and higher), B (60%  $\sim$  under 80%), C (under 60%)

#### Performance assessment of a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Science class in a middle school: Radiative equilibrium



Performance assessment of a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Science class in a middle school: Radiative equilibrium



## 4. Summary & Conclusion

#### What is Education for?

Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school.

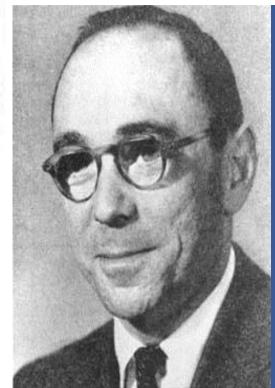
- Albert Einstein

www.quotesworthrepeating.com

#### What is Education for?



If we teach today's students as we taught yesterday's, we rob them of tomorrow. - John Dewey



EDUCATION MUST, BE NOT ONLY A TRANSMISSION OF CULTURE BUT ALSO A PROVIDER OF ALTERNATIVE VIEWS OF THE WORLD AND A STRENGTHENER OF THE WILL TO EXPLORE THEM.

Jerome Bruner

- 1. Creativity & Integration (創意融合) is set as the main goal in the New 2015 Korean National Curriculum.
- 2. As a central change, Integrated Science (統合科學) is newly introduced for all high school students.
- 3. For the Creativity & Integration, STEAM (融合人材) education is strongly supported by the government.
- 4. For middle schools, the system of Free Semester (自由學 期制) is introduced and there is no traditional exams. This will encourage diversity of teaching methods.

#### Summary & Conclusions

- 5. School assessments (學校評價) are getting more complex and increase teachers' burden (教師負擔).
- 6. Science teachers have not been trained to teach Integrated Science (統合科學). There should be a new teacher education system by 師範大學.
- Creativity should be considered as being of something collective rather than of individual. (e.g. 集團創意性, 學級創意性)
- 8. There should be more studies on fundamentals of science education (e.g. science competence 教科 力量, key concepts 核心 概念, integration 統合).

# Thank You! ありがとうございます! Jwsong[at]snu.ac.kr