



Hello Science Education Leaders,

I hope you enjoy your last few weeks with your students and find time to celebrate making it through this year together!

Below are a few science and STEM education learning opportunities and resources that I have heard about. If you have announcements to share about science or STEM-related professional learning and resources, please send them my way for the next edition. A record of these emails can be found on my website: dpi.wi.gov/science/social-media.

Cheers,
Kevin

Learning Opportunities

- [Equity in Science Education](#) - DPI/WSST virtual summer learning group
- [Summer K-5 Science and Social Studies Assessment Webinars](#) - July 21, 28
- [WARF/WID Summer Science Camp Webinar Series](#) - Weds Jun 23 - Jul 28

Resources

- [NIET Science Look-For Tool for Instructional Leaders/Coaches](#)
- [Chemistry grants from ACS](#) - for Central WI Schools, up to \$500
- [Lt. Governor Barnes Calls for More Water Education](#)

Student Opportunities

- ["Aerospace Jam" Drone Competition](#) - from NASA and Milwaukee Bucks
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Details

Learning Opportunities

- Equity in Science Education - DPI/WSST virtual summer learning group
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<https://forms.gle/Pdgwvq9SJRhLYNAv5> (registration) - This professional learning series will be a deep dive into how to move forward in antiracist science education and not simply "go back to normal" in the coming school year. We will have a discussion and action-based model that includes topics such as: personal racial consciousness, science's role in white supremacy, teaching strategies for an antiracist classroom, equitable standards-based grading, and curriculum review/update. The vision is to pair our discussions and learning with tangible plans that you can implement in the coming school year. We expect to have 3-4 sessions during July and August, with dates and times determined by the group. You will not need to attend all sessions to participate, and WSST members is not required. Our primary facilitator will be HS teacher and equity expert, Tasha O'Malley, from the Sun Prairie School District.

Also, if you're interested in joining ongoing DPI workgroups that are creating equity-focused science resources, send me an email.

- Summer K-5 Science and Social Studies Assessment Webinars - July 21, 28

<https://forms.gle/TEGpbRLUmDhZBev69> (registration) - Join DPI science and social studies consultants Kevin Anderson and Kris McDaniel to learn about quality assessment techniques that engage all K-5 students in inquiry. We will be basing our conversations on the equity framework designed by Dr. Ghody Muhammad ("Cultivating Genius"). Dr. Muhammad outlines five components of authentic student engagement: Identity, Skill, Intellectual Connection, Criticality, and Joy. Her work goes beyond the general curricular focus on content and skills, adding in the pieces of the social and political context of the students' communities. These meetings are appropriate for K-5 teams, Directors of Instruction, or any educator interested in K-5 science and social studies. Grades 6-8 educators are welcome to join as well. We will be meeting via Zoom on Wednesday July 21 from 1-3pm and July 28 from 1-3pm. Although free, registration is required.

- WARF/WID Summer Science Camp Webinar Series - Weds from Jun 23 - Jul 28

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12hbM6-uala37zrpdPbGf2yVJrKTMI2dn/view> - High school teachers and students can engage with Madison-based researchers to learn about current lab science, what a career in science could look like, and possible science career pathways. Please complete the linked interest form on this document asap if you have students who would like to attend - could become part of a district-based program. You can select 10-11 AM and/or 3-4 PM each day.

Resources

- NIET Science Look-For Tool for Instructional Leaders/Coaches

<https://www.niet.org/assets/Resources/content-knowledge-look-for-tool-science.pdf> - Does your principal or instructional coach have a look-for tool that aligns to the WSS/NGSS? This new tool from the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching provides a useful structure and standards-aligned ideas for feedback.

- American Chemical Society Grants for Central Wisconsin Schools

<https://communities.acs.org/t5/Central-Wisconsin-Local-Section/Teaching-Enhancement-Grant/ba-p/86001> - The [American Chemical Society \(ACS\)](https://www.acs.org) would like to help you enhance

your curriculum through a new grant initiative. The Central Wisconsin Section of the ACS will be administering up to \$500 in funds to help teachers enhance their chemistry curriculum - your school must be in Adams, Chippewa, Clark, Eau Claire, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Price, Rusk, Taylor or Wood County. Applications are due by Monday, July 12 at 5 p.m.

- Lt. Governor Barnes Calls for More Water Education

Given issues such as PFAS contamination and deteriorating water quality in lakes and rivers, Lt. Governor Barnes has [recently called for an increased emphasis on water](#) in science/STEM education. He highlighted the state's [Freshwater Collaborative](#) as an example of effective partnerships in this regard. Our statewide partnership around inquiry-based learning on water will continue for the next few years, and we encourage you to connect! <https://dpi.wi.gov/science/water>

Student Opportunities

- "Aerospace Jam" Drone Competition - from NASA and Milwaukee Bucks

http://wsst.wildapricot.org/resources/AerospaceJam_SaveTheDate.pdf - Aerospace Jam is a competition for high school students across Wisconsin to use drones on a NASA-inspired simulated moon mission [though they acknowledge this is problematic due to the lack of an atmosphere on the moon]. The program is a partnership between the NASA Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium and the Milwaukee Bucks. The goal is to recruit students from diverse backgrounds and cultivate a welcoming and inclusive event that will foster meaningful interactions among teammates and teams. In September teams will receive a drone kit, and the competition will be held in Spring 2022 (at the Bucks stadium w/ participants getting tickets to the game that night). Registration will begin in the next two weeks.

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“Science is not a body of facts, [it] is a method for deciding whether what we choose to believe has a basis in the laws of nature or not.” – Marcia McNutt