



Hello Science Education Leaders,

First, I want to express my thanks to all of you, as educators across all positions, for your tireless efforts in supporting science education here in Wisconsin! For this Teacher Appreciation Week, I'm reminded of my colleague Robert Gelb, who went from a career as a successful attorney to a middle school history teacher. He inspired his students daily and helped me begin my career with a better appreciation of the complexities of other educators' lives. In my naivety it was easy to judge more senior teachers' lack of willingness to "change." Our focus should always be on supporting and encouraging one another! Here's a brief message from Supt Tony Evers and some fabulous Wisconsin teachers on teacher leadership and appreciating teachers' voices: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_Jm-X0kkU4s&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Jm-X0kkU4s&feature=youtu.be).

Second, we're moving forward with state science standards work. The committee decided to use the NGSS as the foundation of our work. They're now digging through those standards, determining where there might be a need for a clarifications or additions, and adding Wisconsin contexts to increase their relevance. Watch for news about a public comment period this summer.

Below are the latest science education resources and opportunities I've 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](http://dpi.wi.gov/science/social-media).

Cheers,  
Kevin

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### **Learning Opportunities**

- [AP Summer Institute at UW-Madison](#) - June 19-23
- [Forward Exam Item Review Team in Madison](#) - Aug 3-4

### **Resources**

- [In Development \(need your help\)](#) - Real Data Sources for Student Use!
- [Lab Out Loud](#) - Citizen Science and SciStarter
- [Host or attend a Wisconsin Science Festival event](#) - Nov 2-5
- [Solar Eclipse Toolkit](#) - Where will you be August 21st?

### **Student Opportunities**

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- [STEM Forward's Listing of Student STEM Programs this Summer](#)
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## Details

### Learning Opportunities

- AP Summer Institute at UW-Madison - June 19-23

<https://eop.education.wisc.edu/eop/professional-learning/conferences-institutes/advanced-placement-summer-institute> - This week-long institute supports teachers of AP environmental science, chemistry and biology to expand their knowledge of AP content and methodology. Registration is due June 1st.

- Forward Exam Item Review Team in Madison - Aug 3-4

DPI is recruiting Wisconsin educators to participate in new Item Review meetings for the Forward Exam. For science we will be recruiting five to six individuals (including special education and English language educators) at grades 4 and 8. [An application is now available on our Educator Involvement web page](#) (just click the big green button!). Please pass this information along to other school and district staff as well. The online application form must be completed by May 19<sup>th</sup>, and you'll also need to submit a resume to [osamail@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:osamail@dpi.wi.gov) by then. A strong understanding of the NGSS would be important for this work.

### Resources

- In Development (need your help) - Real Data Sources for Student Use!

<https://goo.gl/forms/BzzW4nKWXOqVmGU72> - I'm hoping to build up a website that lists real science data that K-12 students can make sense of. Authentic science often starts with looking at data, making observations, and asking questions of it. Please, take a couple minutes and fill out this survey to share any data sources you use. If you have files, but not a website link, please email me the files if you can. I'll be creating a website with this information. Here's a link for an example of this type of data -

<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/inba/pdf/2015IBatPopEstimate25Aug2015v2.pdf> (notably these bat populations had been steadily increasing from 2001 to 2007).

- Latest Lab out Loud episode - Citizen Science and SciStarter

<http://laboutloud.com/2017/05/episode-167-scistarter/> - Brian and Dale have a great new Lab Out Loud episode out on Citizen Science. They interview Darlene Cavelier, the founder of [SciStarter](#), an "online community to designed to help people find, join and contribute to science through both formal and informal research projects and events."

- Host or attend a Wisconsin Science Festival event - Nov 2-5

<http://www.wisconsinsciencefest.org/media/837f06b7.pdf> - With new science standards planned

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to be out this fall, hosting a school or district event with the Wisconsin Science Festival could be a time to share information about new science standards and how you engage students with science. I believe a goal for all of us should be to increase the science literacy of our communities.

- Solar Eclipse Toolkit - Where will you be August 21st?

The American Astronomical Society is building up resources for this summer's solar eclipse. There is a teacher toolkit here:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aOnd\\_Z6347qhA3iZZzrHxnnOzclE11Lvkc3clCScjo/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aOnd_Z6347qhA3iZZzrHxnnOzclE11Lvkc3clCScjo/edit).

There are also resources on this page – <https://eclipse.aas.org/resources/educational-materials> - though it's under development with a goal of providing detailed class activities and structured lesson plans. And, here's a map of eclipse subject matter experts (only see one in Milwaukee) [https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/2017\\_solar\\_eclipse\\_SME\\_s\\_map.html](https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/2017_solar_eclipse_SME_s_map.html).

### **Student Opportunities**

- STEM Forward's Listing of Student STEM Programs this Summer

<http://www.stemforward.org/stem-summer-programs/> - Many of the listed programs are in the Milwaukee-area, though some are from across the state.

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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