



Hello Science Education Leaders,

I hope the school year ended well for you! As I think about next year, I'm pondering how I might be most helpful to school districts. Please, send me an email with ideas! What work are you doing? What resources are you looking for? As many of you know, I'm available to come out to districts at no cost to support professional learning in science. A one-off workshop might be a starting point, but it shouldn't be an end point. What are our next steps in the work with the Wisconsin Standards for Science?

Below are a few resources and opportunities, particularly emphasizing a few new resources that I've worked on with some amazing Wisconsin educators through the last year.

If you have announcements to share about science or STEM-related professional learning and resources, please send them my way for the next edition, which will be out in August. 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

- **WSELA August 13 and 14** - All are invited to join the WSELA (Wisconsin Science Education Leadership Association) summer meeting at the Schmeeckle Reserve Visitor Center in Stevens Point. On August 13th we'll have our usual format - networking around current issues in science education and leading that work in schools and districts, with some collaborative learning and problem solving. On August 14th we'll be planning and organizing the next generation of the WSST Science Futures summer science leadership institute that will take place during the summer of 2020. There is not a registration form, but you do need to email Kevin Niemi ([kjniemi@wisc.edu](mailto:kjniemi@wisc.edu)) to RSVP, noting which day(s) you'll attend, so that we have a count for meals/snacks. Please, send agenda ideas as well. Cost is \$20 for the Aug 13 meeting or free for first-time attendees; the Aug 14 planning meeting is free. If you're staying for both, email Kevin Niemi about a free or discounted hotel room.

### Resources

- **Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)** - Many districts continue to emphasize SLOs that don't meaningfully connect to the professional learning of science teachers. Arguably, using standardized tests for SLOs doesn't effectively support the learning of science teachers (or any teachers). DPI's Educator Development and Support Team (which
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manages Educator Effectiveness) recently posted an article along these lines:  
<https://dpi.wi.gov/ee/making-student-learning-objectives-meaningful>.

- **Science and Literacy K-8** - What science practices and literacy standards meaningfully connect? What lessons and activities could authentically connect them. A DPI workgroup prepared a K-8 progression of writing-related standards in science and literacy that could help get interdisciplinary work started: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yuX\\_iCc5xrSAvkJC6uODqNxYdMUE0D8mxOMDhrXyWfS/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yuX_iCc5xrSAvkJC6uODqNxYdMUE0D8mxOMDhrXyWfS/edit?usp=sharing)
  - **Claims, Evidence and Reasoning for K-5** - That same science and literacy workgroup also created a useful K-5 progression of claims, evidence, and reasoning skills, linked to grade-level standards, to support effective conclusion writing: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1OnSiwhQZgSSBw2CDST4pv-4ZeocxFUnFOZZcCD5FFgE> -
  - **Communication in Science - What do professionals say?** - a couple years back another workgroup did some interviews of science and engineering professionals to ask how they use communication in their work. We have audio clips of their responses as well as samples from a couple scientists of how their writing actually progresses from the lab to a publication - <https://dpi.wi.gov/science/disciplinary-literacy/professional-voices>
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