



Hello Science Education Leaders,

Here are the latest 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.

Cheers,  
Kevin

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### Opportunities for Educators

- [WSST Conference](#)
- [Great Lakes Educator research boat trip](#) - July 9-15
- [KEEP Energy Educator of the Year Nomination](#)
- [WEI Science Workshop - Using Google Tools to Support Science Literacy](#) - Mar 5th
- [Innovative Schools Network STEM Conference](#) - April 27th - accepting proposals

### Opportunities for Students

- [Badger State Science and Engineering Fair](#) (and regional fairs)
- [Science Olympiad](#)
- [Aldo Leopold Essay Contest](#)
- [DuPont Challenge - contest for K-5 students](#)
- [National Youth Summer Camp](#)- final reminder - deadline Mar 2nd

### Resources

- [2016 Mathematics and Science Partnership Grants](#)
  - [Women's History Month - AAAS Scientist Resources](#)
  - [Wisconsin Media Lab - Eyes of Nye](#)
  - [New National Report - Science Teachers' Learning](#)
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### Opportunities for Educators

- WSST Conference - April 21-23 in LaCrosse

It looks like there will be some fabulous opportunities at the conference. For example, there will be a full-day Engineering is Elementary training on Apr. 21st. Normally, you'd have to pay \$150 just for that

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somewhere else. There will also be networking groups for teachers of English Language Learners and for standards-based grading. <https://wsst.wildapricot.org/page-1828344>

- Great Lakes educator research boat trip July 9-15

The opportunity to spend a week with scientists and 14 other educators on a research vessel cruising Lake Superior sounds incredible to me! Though because of motion sickness, it also makes me queasy just thinking about it... This opportunity is open to 4th-10th grade teachers or informal Wisconsin educators. More information: <http://www.cgll.org/opportunities/> Link to the application: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GKD3VBX>

- KEEP Energy Educator of the Year Nomination

The Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program (KEEP) is accepting nominations for the 2016 Energy Educator of the Year Awards. This award recognizes individuals who are taking the extra step to improve energy literacy among students, teachers, and the greater community. They are looking for individuals who use a variety of creative strategies and devote their time to helping members of their community understand energy concepts and management practices. Nominate someone here: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/KEEP/Pages/Networking/Energy-Award.aspx> Deadline: Feb. 26, 2016

- WEI Science Workshop - Using Google Tools to Support Science Literacy - Mar. 5

Facilitated by Sara Krauskopf, this workshop is geared towards K-8 instructors who want to improve their science instruction by integrating Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) with Common Core language arts and math. Learn to create electronic surveys, tables, and graphs using Google tools and think about how these skills integrate into all areas of instruction, particularly the NGSS practices. More information and registration: <http://flyer.inov8ed.com/2016.03%20Krauskopf.pdf> and

[https://www.wei.solutions/site.php?page\\_id=1210&subpage=1275&catalog\\_id=&search\\_key=literacy](https://www.wei.solutions/site.php?page_id=1210&subpage=1275&catalog_id=&search_key=literacy)

- Innovative Schools Network STEM Conference - April 27th - accepting proposals

Are you starting a STEM program or hope to improve what you have? This “pre-conference” learning day will provide many opportunities for connecting to people who have successful programs and who are trying to create them. <https://2016isn.sched.org/info>

## Opportunities for Students

- Badger State Science and Engineering Fair (and regional fairs)

As long as you don't have students follow the “scientific method,” in-depth science and engineering projects can be a fabulous, personalized learning experience. Giving students the chance to showcase this learning makes it even more meaningful. Consider getting your high school students involved in a regional or state science and engineering fair! Attend a regional or state fair in the next couple of months to help with your planning for next year. State fair: <http://bssef.org/> Regional fairs: <http://bssef.org/regionalFairs.aspx>

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- Science Olympiad

On the topic of in-depth student learning, do you have a Science Olympiad team at your MS or HS? Attending a state or regional tournament in the next couple of months can help prepare you to start your own team. <http://wisconsinso.org/>

- Aldo Leopold Essay Contest - 9th to 12th grade, due Mar. 11th

The [Aldo Leopold Foundation](#) and the [Aldo Leopold Nature Center](#) are pleased to announce the 2016 Wisconsin Aldo Leopold Writing Contest for all Wisconsin students in grades 9-12! Students are invited to submit essays based on the works of Aldo Leopold, especially *A Sand County Almanac*. The top 6 essayists will receive cash awards presented at the [Aldo Leopold Legacy Center](#) in Baraboo, Wisconsin. More details: <http://www.aldoleopold.org/Programs/WritingContest.shtml>

- National Youth Science Camp - last call for applications - due Mar. 2nd

Graduating seniors can have an amazing, all-expense-paid, four week science experience this summer in West Virginia. Get your geek on! I seriously would have loved this... much more than working in a factory. <https://nysc.fluidreview.com/>

- DuPont Challenge - contest for elementary students - due Mar 1st

Teachers submit their K-5 students' or student teams' storyboard or presentation. Each grade has a particular theme and requirements. <http://thechallenge.dupont.com/elementary/index.php>

## Resources

- 2016 Mathematics and Science Partnership Grants

Need some funding for science, STEM, and/or mathematics professional development? Find a higher ed partner, maybe a couple other districts too, and apply for a Title IIb Mathematics and Science Partnership grant. I can help brainstorm ideas and review proposals and brainstorm ideas. The committee would really like to see some excellent science proposals this year! On April 12th there will be a one-day conference for current grantees and those wanting to apply for a grant. More details and registration: <http://dpi.wi.gov/title-ii/part-b>

- Women's History Month - AAAS Scientist Resources

<http://sciencenetlinks.com/collections/womens-history-month/> - March is women's history month. AAAS and SciLinks provided several lessons and classroom ideas focused on the contributions of female scientists. Another site highlighting female scientists from varying backgrounds is here: <http://dpi.wi.gov/science/disciplinary-literacy/multicultural>

- Wisconsin Media Lab - Eyes of Nye

<http://wimedialab.org/> - Not only do they have all the original Bill Nye episodes, but they also now have *The Eyes of Nye*. There's also a well-done series on climate change in WI if you haven't checked

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that out.

- New National Academies report on science teacher professional development - Science Teachers' Learning: Enhancing Opportunities, Creating Supportive Contexts

This new report highlights patterns in current science teaching practice, shortcomings in their learning opportunities, and suggestions for improving their continuum of learning. It would be useful in structuring learning in relation to the NGSS. <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/21836/science-teachers-learning-enhancing-opportunities-creating-supportive-contexts>

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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