

Date:

Dear:

At the National Science Teaching Association's (NSTA) National Conference on Science Education (NSTA Philly25)—one of the largest conferences focused exclusively on science and STEM teaching for K-20 teachers of science—educators will gather to discover best practices and strategies in science education. I am eager to attend this professional learning event in Philadelphia, scheduled for March 26-29, as this is a fantastic opportunity for me to sharpen my skills, while also establishing connections with peers from around the country.

NSTA Philly25 will give me the chance to attend science-specific professional learning, which is critical to my growth as a science teacher. The conference features hundreds of peer-led sessions and workshops that directly apply to my work. NSTA offers [professional development credit](#) (based on clock hours) and [graduate-level credit](#) through Dominican University of California for this conference. This highly specialized professional learning event will equip me with enhanced skills and knowledge on key areas vital to successful learning in my science/STEM classroom, including ensuring my teaching aligns with state teaching standards and research-based teaching pedagogy. Strands for the NSTA Philly25 include:

- **Assessment:** Sessions in this strand focus on improving science and STEM classroom teaching and learning using high-quality assessments. These sessions aim to deepen the educator's knowledge base and instructional practice.
- **Resilience in Teaching and Learning:** This strand will explore some of the successful techniques, tactics, and resources that provide social and emotional learning programs in the classroom and approaches that encourage an educator's self-care. Examples include stress management, social and emotional health, teacher leadership, fitness, and work-life balance.
- **Sensemaking and 3D Learning:** Sessions in this strand focus on ways educators can integrate the four pillars of sensemaking (phenomena, science and engineering practices, student ideas and student ideas) in their practice.
- **Research to Practice:** Sessions in this strand focus on highlighting a specific research project, publication, or finding in education and how it can be implemented in the classroom.
- **#Trending in Science Education:** Sessions in this strand focus on hot topics in science education, including interdisciplinary teaching and learning, AI, curriculum-based professional learning, and involvement of local communities in classroom learning.
- **Leadership:** This strand focuses on supporting science/STEM leaders, from educators or partners in the classroom, administrators, instructional coaches, and district, to national leaders. Example focus areas include professional development (job-embedded professional learning, enactment of high-quality curriculum, instruction, and/or assessment), emerging research areas in leadership, science/STEM professional learning for administrators, management ideas, leading and learning, school branding and social media, working with new teachers, and retaining teachers.

I will also have the chance to explore the Expo Hall to engage in one-on-one conversations with industry experts, participate in live product demos, and explore new teaching and learning tools and resources that will help sharpen my practice and boost student performance. Plus, I will be able to bring home conference materials, allowing me to share what I have learned with others in the department.

The conference also provides opportunities for me to network with education industry leaders, and solution providers. Finally, my conference registration also includes a one-year NSTA membership so in the months after the conference, I will have access to hundreds of lessons, online learning web seminars, and monthly journal articles.

Offering opportunities for further learning and development is a great way to show your appreciation for the teaching profession and thus, support for your staff, like me. I hope you agree that my attendance at NSTA Philly25 is a valuable investment that will help elevate the quality of instruction in my classroom.

Thank you for considering this request. Please let me know if there is any additional information I can provide.

Sincerely,