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Dear Colleagues,

It's with great pleasure that I share the news that the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) has selected St. Louis, MO, to host its National Conference on Science Education next spring—April 11–14, 2019. Please join us!

Science educators from across the United States (and world) attend these content-rich conferences to learn classroom-tested, educator-developed teaching strategies; hear from nationally known experts who inspire attendees to engage their students with new enthusiasm; and try new products and software in the exhibit hall. While all areas of science and science practices will be addressed, particular attention will be focused on our new state science standards (which are aligned to the *Next Generation Science Standards*).

Worried about Missouri Spring Assessments conflicting with the NSTA conference? Don't be! We have confirmed that **the testing window in Missouri will be greatly expanded** to include the dates April 1 through the end of the school year. This will allow schools to work around this incredible national-level conference opportunity without impacting their state testing.

I urge you to set aside professional development time for the next school year to send teachers to this event (and consider attending yourself). There will be at least 12 hours of professional learning time, inspiring keynote speakers, and opportunities to explore exciting curriculum materials in the exhibit hall. Attendees can track their progress, and graduate credit will be available. Attendees choose from hundreds of workshops and presentations covering every science discipline, grade level, and teaching focus from grades preK–16.

Information about this conference can be found on the NSTA website at: www.nsta.org/stlouis

**Bring a Team: Use Code 5FOR4
Get a Complimentary Registration When You Sign Up Four Attendees**

Our state organization, STOM, and I have been enthusiastically trying to spread the word about this great opportunity to Missouri School districts. We want you to know all about this conference so that administrators will be aware of the event's importance and understand the need for funding requests and time off. As you know, Missouri has adopted new science learning standards and an entirely new science assessment. These new standards and assessments are directly aligned to the learning, practices, and content that will be addressed at this conference. With many districts cutting back on long-distance travel, don't miss this opportunity to attend the absolute best in science education in our own region. Skip the plane and drive on into St. Louis for an experience and learning that will impact your classroom for years to come.

Sincerely,

Mike Szydowski | MSzydowski@cpsk12.org

Conference Chair, St. Louis National Conference, K-12 Science Coordinator, Columbia Public Schools, Columbia, Missouri

Learn more here about how your school or district may be able to use funds (Title I, Title II, and Title IV-A) from the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the new federal education law, for teacher professional development that will support the STEM and Science in your school.:

<http://static.nsta.org/pdfs/ED-ResourcesForSTEMEducation.pdf> and

<http://static.nsta.org/pdfs/ESSAInfographic.pdf>

REGISTRATION OPEN APRIL 11-14 • ST. LOUIS

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