



TO: Chapter and Associated Group Presidents

FROM: Ken Rosenbaum
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DATE: August 1, 2009

SUBJECT: Congress 2009 Resolutions

The National Congress on Science Education (NCSE) is financially supported by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and NSTA's State Chapters and Associated Groups. The Congress is an independent body that focuses on science education from local perspectives. The NCSE has had ten annual summer meetings. Congress delegates bring resolutions that reflect issues in science education to the Congress. NCSE resolutions may arise from the actions of the governing bodies of the State Chapters or the Current Issue Forums at the Congress meetings. There are three types of Congress resolutions: those that are addressed to the attention of the Chapters and Associated Groups for their consideration, those that are addressed to the attention of the NSTA for consideration, and those which are statements of the position of the Congress on various issues.

The six Current Issue Forms at the 2009 Congress in Miami were:

ISSUES FORUM 1: RESOURCES FOR RETAINING TEACHERS

ISSUES FORUM 2: SUPPORTING SCIENCE LEADERS

ISSUES FORUM 3: MEETING THE NEEDS OF DIVERSE LEARNERS

**ISSUES FORUM 4: COMPONENTS OF A SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR SCIENCE
TEACHERS**

ISSUE FORUM 5: OPTIMIZING SCIENCE IN THE ELEMENTARY GRADES

ISSUE FORUM 6: K-8 INTERGRATION OF SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS

Please let us know if your Chapter or Associated Group considered any actions on the resolutions passed by the 2009 Congress for the consideration of the CAGs,

If you have questions, comments or concerns please feel free to contact me at krosenbaum@nsta.org or (866) 737-6713.

National Congress Resolutions 2009

Addressed to the attention of the Chapters and Associated Groups for their consideration

7/09CNG4 Be it resolved that Chapter and Associated Groups of NSTA advocate that the state educational agencies and/or local agencies where appropriate recognize conference presenters with professional development hours for both the delivery and the preparation of sessions given at state and local conferences to encourage and promote science leadership.

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG5 Be it resolved that the Chapters and Associated Groups of NSTA encourage school districts to provide incentives for quality leadership activities in science education. Such incentives may take the form of recognition, workload adjustment, financial rewards, and/or credit for advancement.

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG7 Be it resolved that the NCSE encourages the CAGs to inform their members about resources available to support the education/instruction of diverse learners, e.g. NSTA communities and groups; peer-reviewed journal article archives, NSTA position statements about Multicultural learners and ELL, gender equity, students with disabilities; conference workshops and/or strands; webinars, etc., at NSTA.ORG web site.

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG8 Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education encourage Chapters, Affiliates and Associated Groups utilize the 2006 NSTA position statement “Professional Development in Science Education” by:

- advocating to state boards of education and other leaders to facilitate professional development for science teachers
- building capacity for collaboration among individual science teachers

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG9 Be it resolved that Chapters, Affiliates and Associated Groups disseminate and support the NSTA Position Statement “Principles of Professionalism for Science Education.”

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG21 Be it resolved that CAGS consider collaboration with state math affiliates and other professional organizations to support the PD and implementation of high quality math/science integration.

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG22 Be it resolved that CAGS consider including conference strands that promote high quality professional development on the integration of math/science.

Congress Action: Passed

National Congress Resolutions 2009 **Position Statements**

7/09CNG12 Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education encourages participants of NCSE to participate throughout the year in an on-line NSTA community including but not limited to coaching science teachers.

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG13 Be it resolved that the NCSE 2009 supports a request for the opportunity from the Council for Elementary Science International (CESI) pending their Board approval to compile resources for dissemination in an electronic toolkit for educators to become more effective advocates for science as a core subject in the preK-8 curricula.

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG15 Be it resolved that the 2009 NCSE promotes, supports and advocates that elementary science education is critical to the foundation of science literacy and affects future science course selection and career opportunities.

Congress Action: Passed

7/09CNG16 Be it resolved that the 2009 National Congress on Science Education advocate teacher preparation and continued learning that focus on a natural integration of math and science education; ie accurate, research-based, high quality content through the context of

- Project based learning
- Problem based learning
- Technology rich opportunities
- Real world applications
- Literacy across content

Congress Action: Passed

National Congress Resolutions 2009
Addressed to the attention of the NSTA Council and Board

7/09CNG1 Be it resolved that the resources available on the NSTA website be continued. It is also recommended that this work be expanded and communicated to the CAGs and pre-service programs to increase the awareness of these resources.

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: 7/09CCL4 Passed by Council

Board Action: No Board Action Taken

7/09CNG2 Be it resolved that NSTA define and establish focused organizational relationships with national associations of school administrators, school board, and informal educators to develop, support, and evaluate mechanisms that value science education leaders and the science leadership continuum. Additionally, NSTA shall disseminate these processes and resources for state chapters and affiliates to replicate.

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: 7/09CCL5 Passed by Council

Board Action: Following Replacement Motions Passed

7/09 BOD7 Moved that in response to 7/09CCL5 and 7/09CNG2 that NSTA communicate with national associations of school administrators, school boards, informal educators, state chapters and affiliates the value of the science teacher in the role of science education leadership.

7/09BOD8 Moved that in response to 7/09CCL5 and 7/09CNG2 that NSTA compile and disseminate resources on science teacher leadership to chapters and associated groups.

7/09CNG3 Be it resolved that NSTA advocate that the state educational agencies recognize conference presenters with professional development hours for both the delivery and the preparation of sessions given at NSTA-sponsored conferences to encourage and promote science leadership.

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: 7/09CCL6 Passed by Council

Board Action: Following Amended Motion Passed

7/09BOD9 Moved by Jean Tushie in response to 7/09CCL6 and 7/09CNG3 that in order to encourage and promote science leadership, NSTA encourages state educational agencies to recognize conference presenters with professional development hours or similar recognition allowable by state law or policy for both the delivery and the preparation of sessions given at NSTA-sponsored conferences.

7/09CNG10 Be it resolved the National Congress on Science Education recommends NSTA compile and disseminate an appropriate set of resources to chapters, affiliates, and associated groups for the purpose of conducting principal/Administration professional development that supports inquiry-based science.

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: 7/09CCL7 Passed by Council

Board Action: Following Amended Motion Passed

7/09BOD10 Moved by Walter Smith in response to 7/09CCL7 and 7/09CNG10 that NSTA's Professional Development Committee compile and disseminates an appropriate set of resources to chapters, affiliates, and associated groups for the purpose of conducting principal/Administration professional development that supports effective science instruction.

7/09CNG11 Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education encourages NSTA to include additional on-line resources to support instructional coaching models as effective professional development for teachers of science.

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: 7/09CCL8 Passed

Board Action: Following Amended Motion Passed

7/09BOD11 Moved by Page Keeley in response to 7/09CCL8 and 7/09CNG11 to encourage NSTA to explore ways to support content coaching in science as an effective professional development strategy for science teachers.

7/09CNG14 Be it resolved that NCSE recommend that the NSTA Position Statement: Elementary School Science (2002) be revised and updated in an expedited fashion. Recommendations for revisions and updates include:

- allocating a minimum of 90 minutes per week to inquiry based science instruction
- promoting targeted professional development/learning for elementary teachers in science content and instructional strategies
- recognizing the significant learning advantages of integrating science into other content areas
- emphasizing the links between the use of inquiry strategies and increased student learning
- connecting elementary science to future success in education and career opportunities

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: 7/09CCL9 Passed as amended by deleting "in an expedited fashion"

Board Action: Following Amended Motion Passed

7/09BOD12 Moved by Vanessa Westbrook in response to 7/09CCL9 and 7/09CNG14 that the NSTA Position Statement: Elementary School Science (2002) be revised and updated.

7/09CNG17 Be it resolved that NSTA considers the development of “products” that support high quality integration of math/science (e.g. pod casts, blogs, journal articles, NSTA press publications).

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: Following Amended Council Motion Passed

7/09CCL10 Moved by Linda Bates in response to 7/09CNG17 to recommend to the Board that NSTA continue to develop products and services that support high quality integration of math/science (e.g. pod casts, blogs, journal articles, NSTA press publications.)

Board Action: 7/09BOD13 Defeated

7/09CNG18 Be it resolved that NSTA considers a Research Dissemination Conference on math/science integration.

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: 7/09CCL11 Passed

Board Action: Following Amended Motion Passed

7/09BOD14 Moved by Vanessa Westbrook in response to 7/09CCL11 and 7/09CNG18 to explore various avenues for professional development on the research-based connections between mathematics/science integration.

7/09CNG19 Be it resolved that NSTA considers offering a summer institute on math/science integration.

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: Following Amended Motion Passed

7/09CCL12 Moved by Linda Bates in response to 7/09CNG19 to recommend to the Board that NSTA consider collaborating with NCTM in offering a summer institute on math/science integration.

Board Action: 7/09BOD15 Defeated

7/09CNG20 Be it resolved that NSTA considers further collaboration with NCTM and other professional organizations to support the PD and implementation of high quality math/science integration.

Congress Action: Passed

Council Action: 7/09CCL13 Passed

Board Action: 7/09BOD16 Defeated