

To Whom It May Concern:

The National Science Teachers Association ([NSTA](http://www.nsta.org)), in conjunction with the Maryland Association of Science Teachers ([MAST](http://www.mast.org)), will be hosting an Area Conference in Baltimore, MD, from October 5–7, 2017. The theme of the conference is **Making Science Accessible: Full Steam Ahead**, and it will feature these supporting strands:

1. Anchoring Our Natural Treasures Through Environmental Literacy
2. Tying the Knot: Coherence in 3D Science Learning
3. Charting the Course for Innovation

Science, engineering, and technology are all around us, and every student deserves the opportunity to pursue deep learning in STEM so they will be ready for both scientifically literate citizenship and STEM careers. Teachers are critical to supporting students' learning, and this highly specialized professional development event will equip teachers with skills and knowledge to support all students in these pursuits. The imperative for science teachers and administrators who are well qualified and who understand what is needed to develop relevant and high-quality science and STEM programs is more important today than ever.

This NSTA area conference offers unique opportunities for those involved in science teaching to learn how to effectively integrate various instructional approaches into their teaching and learning environments including:

- General sessions from nationally known presenters including Dr. Freeman Hrabowski and Jay McTighe.
- Hands-on workshops that enhance on-going development of teachers and school leaders to improve their content knowledge
- Concurrent sessions to promote current best practices in instructional planning and assessment
- Network opportunities to develop relationships within a nationwide professional community of science educators
- Focused sessions on developing partnerships within your community to enhance science instruction.

We are confident that the programming and events associated with the NSTA Area Conference in Baltimore will help to ensure successful implementation of science education into our schools and communities. For more information, please visit the NSTA Conference website at [www.nsta.org/baltimore](http://www.nsta.org/baltimore).

We hope you and your colleagues will take advantage of this unique offering.

Sincerely,

NSTA Baltimore Area Conference Committee

Mary C. H. Weller  
Conference Chair

Mary Stapleton  
Local Planning Coordinator

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