Minutes of the Third Meeting of the National Congress on Science Education
July 11-14, 2002 Charleston, South Carolina

July 11, 2002
9:00-9:50 am Congress General Session:
Orientation
Introductions
Report of the Credentialing Committee
  39 Chapter Delegates
  8 Associated Group Delegates
  18 Chapter Alternate Delegates
  2 Associated Group Alternate Delegates
  10 Registrants
77 Total Attendees

Passed
Adoption of the Rules
Adoption of the Agenda
Requests for Resolutions from Chapters and Associated Groups
There were none
Requests for Additional Focus Groups
There were none
Motion Matrix Review

10:00 am- 4:30 pm Meetings of Focus Groups
The Focus Groups Were:
Achievement Gaps/Accountability
Facilitator: Geraldine Farmer
Leader: Vallie Guthrie

Partnerships
Facilitator: Jim Puckett
Leader: Steven Ethen

Inquiry, Keeping Science In The Schools
Facilitator: Ken Graupmann
Leader: Randy Johnson

Changing the Culture To Meet The Needs and Overcome Apathy
Facilitator: Dan Forbes
Leader: Jean Tushie

The Changing Role of Professional Development
Facilitator: Dwight Sieggreen
Leader: Joyce Tugel

Integrating Curriculum
Facilitator: Julia Polak
Leader: Dick Dettmer

5:00 pm Resolutions Due
July 12, 2002

9:00 am -11:00 am Congress General Session
Update from the Credentialing Committee
    41 Chapter Delegates
    9 Associated Group Delegates
    19 Chapter Alternate Delegates
    3 Associated Group Alternate Delegates
    10 Registrants
    **82 Total Attendees**

Passed

7/02CNG1 **Partnerships** proposed:
Be it resolved that NSTA and NCSE establish a joint task force to:
 a) Identify the currently available resources to promote partnership formation
 b) Compile various types of partnerships contributed by the Chapters and Associated Groups
 c) Recommend strategies to develop and disseminate training materials and models for establishing and contributing successful partnerships

This resolution requires immediate action from the Council and Board

Passed

7/02CNG2 **Changing the Culture to Meet the Needs and Overcome Apathy** proposed:
Resolved that NSTA develop a web page link for Chapters and Associated Groups to share and discuss membership/leadership barriers, strategies and successes facilitated by the District Directors and the Field Services Coordinator.

This resolution requires immediate action from the council and board

Passed

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1 Amendments passed by the NCSE will be noted in the following way: words stricken from a resolution will be struck through twice and words added to a resolution will be underlined.
7/02CNG3  Changing the Culture to Meet the Needs and Overcome Apathy proposed:
Resolved that NSTA produce a CD/on line resource that illustrates Best Practices to be
used to develop leadership to increase the number of potential leaders.

This resolution is one that requires immediate action from the Council and Board.

Passed

7/02CNG4  Changing the Culture to Meet the Needs and Overcome Apathy proposed:
Be it resolved that NSTA produce both an on line/CD resource explaining how Title II of
the No Child Left Behind legislation funding can be accessed und utilized to encourage
professional development opportunities in science education.

This resolution requires immediate action from the Council and Board.

Passed

7/02CNG5 Integrating Curriculum proposed:
Resolved that NSTA publish Best Practices for inter- and intra- disciplinary integration of
science teaching and learning, identified by scientifically-based research.

This resolution requires immediate action from the Council and Board.

Passed

7/02CNG6 Integrating Curriculum proposed:
Resolved that NSTA establish a task force to collaborate with national and professional
teacher organizations for interdisciplinary (between science and other subjects) teaching
and learning.

This resolution is one that requires immediate action from the Council and Board.

Passed

7/02CNG7 Integrating Curriculum proposed:
NSTA will establish a Task Force comprised of PreK- 12 and higher education
science educators to encourage and identify exemplary models and encourage of
intradisciplinary (within science disciplines) teaching and learning.

This resolution requires immediate action from the Council and Board.

Passed
Achievement Gaps/Accountability proposed:

Be it resolved that the NSTA Director of Research will pursue partnerships with groups like the Math/Science Partnerships and the Centers for Learning and Teaching on research efforts and other initiatives for the purpose of increasing the recognition and influence of NSTA and improving the teaching and learning of science.

Critical research areas include:

- Is technology making a difference in science education?
- Does the National Board Certification increase teacher effectiveness?
- Relationship of various types of professional development to student science learning
- Characteristics of assessment that measure good science teaching and learning
- What strategies are successful in reducing the science achievement gap?
- Effectiveness of teachers with alternate certification

This resolution is one that requires immediate action from the Council and Board

Passed

Achievement Gaps/Accountability proposed:

Resolved that closing the achievement gap is important to assuring quality science education for all. Part of the achievement gap may in actuality be an assessment gap. NSTA should be at the forefront of the development of good inquiry based assessment instruments. Quality and meaningful professional and teacher development is a critical factor in teacher effectiveness and student achievement. Most of the teachers of science are not members of NSTA, and thus, do not receive the services or opportunities to provide input to improve science education. One of the ways to obtain closure of this achievement gap is to increase membership in NSTA of urban and rural teachers.

This resolution is a message from the National Congress on Science Education to the Chapters and Associated Groups.

Passed

Achievement Gaps/Accountability proposed:

Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education encourage national testing instruments be more related to the doing of science and less related to reading skills to include a performance assessment component.

This resolution is accepted for study/open ended requesting thoughtful input from the Chapters and Associated Groups to the Council.

Passed
7/02CNG11  
_Professional Development_ proposed: 
Resolved that NSTA prepare a concise document citing research that quality Science Professional Development improves student achievement in science and other areas. (Language Arts and Math)  
This document will be used to inform administrators, teachers and other stakeholders about the benefits of quality Professional Development in Science.  
This resolution requires immediate action from the Council and Board.  
_Passed_

7/02CNG12  
_Professional Development_ proposed: 
Resolved that Chapters and Associated Groups of NSTA be encouraged to design conferences, workshops and seminars that incorporate strands and coordinate with other professional development providers such as institutions of higher education, state agencies and other professional groups to provide sustained high quality professional development opportunities.  
This resolution is a message from the National Congress on Science Education to the Chapters and Associated Groups.  
_Passed_

7/02CNG13  
_Professional Development_ proposed: 
Be it resolved that the NSTA National and Area Convention strand information be published at least two years eighteen months in advance. This will provide sufficient time for states to coordinate their programs and for teachers/educators to plan their individual professional development activities.  
This resolution is one that requires immediate action from the Council and Board.  
_Passed_

7/02CNG14  
_Professional Development_ proposed: 
Resolved that the National Congress on Science Education urges the state education agencies, higher education institutions and local education agencies to continue to use NCLB Title II funds for improving science education.  
This resolution is a message from the National Congress on Science Education to the Chapters and Associated Groups.  
_Passed_
Inquiry, Keeping Science in the Schools proposed:
Be it resolved that NSTA will develop a clear research based position statement on inquiry based on research. This may include definition, attributes, resources, video examples, exemplary programs, bibliography, etc.

This resolution requires immediate action from the Council and Board.

Passed

Inquiry, Keeping Science in the Schools proposed:
Be it resolved that NSTA actively promote education of administrators, legislators, educators, school board members and parents in the practice of inquiry science and the scientifically based research supporting it.

This resolution is one that requires immediate action from the Council and Board.

Passed

The following three members of the National Congress on Science Education were elected by the voting Delegates to the 2003 NCSE Planning Committee:
Dan Forbes, Science Teachers Association of Manitoba
Sami Kahn, Science Education for Students With Disabilities
Chris Royce, Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association

11:00 am Adjourn