

**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~~¹ 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

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 and 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- ~~46~~ 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

7/02CNG8

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

7/02CNG9

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

7/02CNG10

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

7/02CNG15

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

7/02CNG16

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