Hello,
My name is Amy Palmer, and I have been a science teacher in the classroom for 14 years. Our school uses the Next Generation Science Standards to guide our science curriculum. We feel the NGSS are excellent standards, and would like to see Maine adopt them as our science standards. Not only are they rigorous, but they encourage teachers to teach science as a process, which is much closer to what scientists actually do "in real life." This year, I am teaching K-8 science, and no matter if I am teaching kindergarten or middle school students, I adhere to the science practices laid out by the NGSS. These are incredibly important--just as important as the core concepts. All three dimensions of the NGSS combine to form the basis of students' scientific literacy. Science is a process, and we should teach it that way. This enables students to grow their abilities to think critically and creatively like scientists to solve problems in the real world.

Thank you,
Amy Palmer
K-8 STEAM Teacher
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