Dear Science Standards Review Committee:

I write to encourage the State of Maine to look to the Next Generation Science Standards as we revise our Maine standards.

The NGSS offer strong learning opportunities for students. They integrate science skills in with the content, as well as integrating cross-cutting thematic concepts. While the current Maine Learning Results do include science skills, they are not assessed at the state level and are treated as separate stand-alone learning goals.

Maine was a lead state in developing the frameworks that led to the NGSS. Let's stand behind them now!

A survey from the Maine Science Teachers' Association indicates that the majority of Maine's school districts have already implemented NGSS in some way. If so many teachers, administrators and school boards across the state have recognized these standards' usefulness and power for science education, surely it would make sense for the state to assess these standards that the professionals in the field are endorsing and using!

I encourage the State of Maine to adopt the Next Generation Science Standards because they offer a better system for learning and for preparing our students than the current Maine Learning Results for science.

Now teachers who are using these standards could really use models of appropriate assessments that address both the content and the crosscutting concepts!

Thank you,

Sue Lamdin
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