Now is the time to finally have equity for all Maine students K-12. The children in Maine have waited long enough. By adopting the NGSS Maine students across the state and in all grade levels will have access to science and engineering teaching and learning that will enable them to become informed citizens in our ever changing and challenging world.

These standards will provide all Maine students with a solid education in science, technology and engineering, helping them to make decisions on increasingly complex medical, energy, and environmental issues. Students will also be prepared to pursue careers in the science, engineering, and technology fields. Demand for jobs in STEM related fields is growing in Maine and nationally. By adopting the Next Generation Science Standards Maine will be developing its workforce in these areas.

The Next Generation Science Standards have been carefully written based on thorough research. Educators at all levels participated in the writing and reviewing of the standards. The NGSS incorporate practices, crosscutting concepts and core ideas into each standard. This combination will empower teachers to teach in a manner that will provide relevance and applicability to science.

I urge the adoption of the NGSS.

Pamela Thompson

Resident Industry, Maine

Past President Maine Science Teachers Association