Um, My name is Leigh Peake and I'm coming in wearing two hats, the first um is that I am chief education officer of the GMRI um and the second is I am chair of the state Stem Collaborative so Im going to speak to the ...um as chair of the stem collaborate we are a volunteer organization of stem organizations from across the state and I don't come speaking... we don't try to speak with one voice ...we really are a network for dissemination of information to of all of our members I just want to say that I would say that everything that Tom said, and was it Margo right about the NGSS reflects the conversation that we've been having for all the years that I've been on the collaborative. So I think its fair to say that that reflects the tone of what we are hearing statewide from stem organizations across the state and all of us in informal, formal, etc. so that's part I. The second part really is coming from a Marine Research Organization I wanted to speak explicitly again in favor of adoption of the NGSS or influenced by them and I want to speak explicitly um to the cross cutting concepts um and practices. So its easy to look at the NGSS as a whole but as a Marine research Organization what we see in terms of what our scientists do everyday that's most reflected in the standards is this idea that there are higher level concepts that are bigger than any one content nugget um that a child can might absorb so and that those helping kids reach to see how ideas and content ideas connect into these cross cutting concepts is um from our perspective and I do speak in terms of also our scientists one of the most powerful things we've seen come along in standards recently. The second is the practices so obviously ah as kids leave we hope that they can apply, leave our programs, we hope they can apply um and approach to thinking about the world and thinking about science and applying kinds of practices and habits of mind um that in again are more important than the particular content nuggets that they absorb um and that those two things working together I think are really a powerful aspect of the standards so I guess I would advocate I would hate to see the content part of the standards adopted without looking at tightly together this idea of cross cutting concepts and practices. So that's what I have to say.