Hello, My name is Katharine Keefe and I am a high school teacher at Westbrook High School and I have taught both in Ellsworth, Maine and here in Westbrook over the last 5 years. When I first moved to Maine, Ellsworth was still in the process of using the Maine Learning Results and I found that my classroom was based more on learning facts and covering information as opposed to actually doing science and over the last 5 years my classroom has transformed into a more hands-on inquiry based problem solving room. Um the thing about the Maine Learning, er Next Generation Science Standards that I absolutely love is the fact that it has that three-dimensional design with the cross cutting concepts, the disciplinary core ideas and the practices that have our students actually doing science and developing the skills that they are going to need to be science literate citizens in our world today which is becoming increasingly important in the world that we live in. My students thrive in a hands-on inquiry based environment where they are asked to analyze and communicate their findings clearly. I watch my students dive deeper into science content because they have been asked to make connections between subjects and develop scientific skills needed to be successful in college workplace and as informed citizens. Over the past 5 years I and my colleagues have invested countless hours unpacking the Next Gen Science Standards developing cohesive units, rubrics and standards that could be used toward our proficiency based diplomas. Um moving forward I can't imagine using anything else. Thank you.