To Whom it May Concern,

We, the Noble Middle School Science department, feel that Maine should adopt the NGSS science standards. These standards combine the teaching of science skill and content through real world problems (like global warming, renewable resources, water pollution, and the effects of drilling), making them more interesting and engaging in student centered proficiency based classrooms. The NGSS science standards relate content to practical application and answer the age old question students are always asking “why do I need to know this” which makes learning science more meaningful and engaging.

The NGSS science standards are mapped in a scope and sequence that flows nicely from concept to concept in a way that is easy for kids and teachers to understand, transitioning easily from one proficiency or standard to the next. This easily allows for vertical alignment within districts for classroom teachers enabling them to pre-assess and remediate students where needed as they transition from one grade level to the next securing K-12 proficiencies.

NGSS science standards meet students where they are developmentally with age and grade level appropriate concepts and learning targets. They are integrated, engaging kids in sciences from a variety of content areas increasing student opportunity to make connections to and find areas of interest somewhere within the science curriculum.

Lastly and most importantly we want the students in the state of Maine to have equal learning opportunities and access to the level of national rigor that the NGSS Science Standards provide. The best available teacher materials and text are already aligned and adapted to the NGSS science standards and are available for schools to use.

Sincerely,

MSAD#60 Noble Middle School Teachers

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