

National Associations' Accomplishments Regarding Sustainability

Check out these leading National Associations and how they are promoting EfS through their networks.

- **National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)**
NSTA Sustainability Statement
NSTA has made a commitment to help educate its members about the issues related to sustainability and to increase the number and type of sustainability practices of the association. For members:
For example the theme of the 2008 area conference in Portland, OR was “Sustainable Science” with many sessions for teachers about sustainably science. These sessions are becoming a feature at all the conferences. There is a one day strand at the national conference in New Orleans in 2009 dedicated to sustainability.
NSTA has a competition for students where they develop projects and ideas related to sustainability.
NSTA is actively pursuing a nationwide program to help students and their teachers better understand the science of buildings to help raise the awareness and knowledge about sustainable practices.
Lastly, NSTA sends suggestions to members for how they can attend the NSTA conference more sustainably.
For the Association
NSTA has been implementing several strategies for being more sustainable in its day to day practices as an association. They include:
 - An inter-organizational team looking at employee practices with the task to help them reduce waste of the association.
 - A criteria of the conference department when identifying conference sites is the “sustainability efforts” of that city.
 - The conference committee from each city is encouraged to consider” sustainability” and associated topics as they develop their conference strands.
 - Conference programs are printed on recyclable paper.
 - Session evaluation programs are printed on 100% recyclable paper.
 - Most of the printed materials, books, articles journals are also available electronically to members — a great deal of it free of charge
 - Finally, NSTA is in a capital campaign underway for a LEED Gold Certified headquarters in Arlington, VA. The intent of this building is to provide a model and catalyst for teachers and students nationwide to better understand sustainability through the science of buildings.
- **National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc)**
NASDCTEc has been working on advocacy efforts on the hill to make connections to the green economy. They are making the case that students who are sustainability thinkers are coming out of their membership programs. They want to ensure that they have innovative programs in all states.
- **Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)**
CCSSO has convened a “Global Competency Workgroup” that is developing a set of student outcomes that will integrate sustainability.
- **American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE)**

AACTE hosted the Education for Sustainability National Professional Organizations' Summit at their headquarters in Washington D.C. in the Fall of 2008. The summit, facilitated by the U.S. Partnership of Education for Sustainability, brought together executive staff from a select group of key professional organizations whose members are directly involved with K-12 education and/or the professional preparation of K-12 teachers and administrators. The purpose of the summit was to promote development of a sector-wide strategy for integrating education for sustainability into the teaching and operations of U.S. K-12 schools. AACTE's President, Sharon Robinson, presented opening remarks to kick start the event.

AACTE is making "Preparing Educators for the New World" the major theme for the 2010 Annual Meeting in Atlanta will include sustainability as a major strand within the theme.

- American Psychological Association (APA)
The APA is in the process of updating standards for secondary schools and is looking for resources on how environment impacts teaching to include in this process. They would like to get these resources into the hands of all of their teachers. At their August 2009 conference there will be a keynote about environmental studies and how these issues impact teachers in the classroom.
- National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)
NCSS has instituted a project where students and parents weigh trash and talk about use, waste, and recycling. NCSS is also including sustainability into their publications. In the 2009 NCSS publication, *Middle Level Learning*, teachers were given resources to bring sustainability into their classrooms such as the *Facing the Future* (www.facingthefuture.org) and U.S. Partnership (www.uspartnership.org) websites. There is a call for manuscripts on sustainability in NCSS' publication *Social Education*. Economy and sustainability issues are also being highlighted for elementary educators in the NCSS publication *Social Studies and the Young Learner*.
- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
AAAS has a session on sustainability at their annual meeting. The Forum on Sustainability Science Programs is engaging all the program directors and academic staff at the university level who are starting sustainability programs. The education office of AAAS is working with DC charter schools to put sustainable energy curriculum into 6-8 science classes and afterschool programs.