

Deborah Wehrlin - PIP Report

I wanted to express my sincere gratitude for affording me the opportunity to attend the **National Science Teachers Association: National Harbor Area Conference on Science Education: A National Priority**, in National Harbor, Maryland.

All of the workshops I attended were outstanding. The amount of knowledge and expertise that was shared amongst complete strangers was an experience I will never forget. My main goal in attending the conference was to continue gaining knowledge of the Next Generation Science Standards, and how other teachers are beginning the implementation process in their districts in different states. I felt it important to further my understanding of the new standards not only as I work through the process with my 6th grade colleagues but also as department chair for our Middle School science department. I can say with confidence that I have a more thorough understand how the NGSS is set up and what we will need to accomplish to successfully implement it at Clarence Middle School. Topics which were included in the workshops:

Phenomena in NGSS lessons

Instructional sequencing

Breaking down the 3 dimensions

Teaching for conceptual science

Developing a spiraled NGSS curriculum in the middle school

Using CER to support assessments

Lessons for weather and climate, DNA glow lab, chemical reactions

NSTA Online resources and communities