



Date:

Dear:

At the National Science Teaching Association's (NSTA) National Conference on Science Education (NSTA ANA26)—one of the largest conferences focused exclusively on science teaching for K–20 teachers of science—educators will gather to discover best practices and strategies in science education. I'm eager to attend this professional learning event in Anaheim, California, scheduled for April 15-18, as this is a fantastic opportunity for me to sharpen my skills, while also establishing connections with peers from around the country.

Attending NSTA ANA26 will provide access to high-quality, science-specific professional learning that is critical to my continued growth as an educator. The conference includes hundreds of peer-led sessions and workshops that directly apply to my work. NSTA offers [professional development credit](#) (based on clock hours) and [graduate-level credit](#) through Dominican University of California for this conference.

This highly specialized conference will equip me with actionable strategies and updated knowledge in key areas vital to successful learning in my classroom—ensuring my instruction aligns with state teaching standards and research-based teaching pedagogy.

NSTA ANA26 features professional learning opportunities organized across seven key strands. One notable strand, **Teacher Well-Being in STEM**, focuses on supporting educator wellness. Sessions in this strand provide strategies, tools, and practical guidance to help teachers like me navigate the demands of the profession while reclaiming time for reflection, rest, and renewal. Prioritizing educator well-being is essential—not only for sustaining my own growth, but also for maximizing student success.

Additional strands include:

- **Using Three-Dimensional Assessment to Evaluate Student Sensemaking** – Explore the full spectrum of 3D assessment design and how to use results to support student growth.
- **Artificial Intelligence in Education** – Explore “AI in Action” and its impact on science education.
- **Teaching Strategies and Classroom Practice** – Discover ways to integrate the four pillars of sensemaking: phenomena, science and engineering practices, student ideas, and science ideas.
- **#Trending in Science Education** – Engage with timely topics like interdisciplinary teaching, place-based and play-based learning, storytelling, and participatory science.
- **Leadership and Advocacy** – Gain strategies and insights to lead beyond the classroom and advance science/STEM education at the school, district, or policy level.
- **Lesson Showcase** – Designed as a collaborative “share-a-thon,” these posters highlight successful strategies and resources, often showcasing the before, during, and after stages of a lesson to give attendees a comprehensive overview.



I'll also have access to the Expo Hall, where I can explore new tools and resources, speak directly with solution providers and industry experts, participate in live product demos, and bring home materials to share with my department. My registration includes a one-year NSTA membership, giving me ongoing access to hundreds of lessons, online learning webinars, and monthly journal articles.

Offering opportunities for continued learning and professional growth is a meaningful way to support and recognize the work of educators—and, in turn, your staff, including me. I believe that attending NSTA ANA26 would be a valuable investment not only in my own development, but also in the quality of instruction I provide to my students. I hope you'll agree that this opportunity aligns with our shared commitment to instructional excellence and student achievement.

Thank you for considering my request. Please let me know if you'd like any additional information.

Sincerely,