Hello Science Education Leaders,

Here are the latest science education resources and opportunities I've heard about. If you have announcements to share about science or STEM-related professional learning and resources, please send them my way for the next edition. A record of these emails can be found on my website:dpi.wi.gov/science/social-media.

Cheers,
Kevin

Learning Opportunities

- STEM Conference - Innovative Schools Network- April 27th
- Computer Science Summit- May 4th
- Stanford Designing Performance Tasks MOOC- starting April 11th
- WI Lesson Database – Paid Opportunity - WISELearn Curator Days@ CESAs - Apr and May

Resources

- School Forest grants- due April 1st
- Go Fund grants to get students outside- due April 3rd
- Scott Kelly NASA photos database
- Michigan Science Teacher Association- newsletter resources
- Assessment webinar recordings

Student Opportunities

- State Crystal Growing Contest- MS/HS - happening now
- STEM Exploration Day for MS students- Tomahawk - May 6th
- Destination Imagination State Tournament- UWSP - April 16th
- Science Olympiad State Tournament- UW Stout - Apr 2nd

Details

Learning Opportunities

- STEM Conference - Innovative Schools Network - April 27th

https://2016isn.sched.org/ - This full-day pre-conference focuses on building effective STEM programs, with the afternoon unconference being facilitated by STEM experts on topics based on conference goers needs and emphasizing networking.

- Computer Science Summit - May 4th

http://www.wismath.org/event-2143396 - This inaugural Wisconsin computer science summit takes place on the Wednesday beginning the annual Wisconsin Mathematics Council conference in Green Lake. Only $25 and features an administrator strand.

- Stanford Designing Performance Tasks MOOC - starting Apr 11th

https://novoed.com/designing-performance-tasks-2-0 - This is a free, online course where you learn more on how to design performance tasks. Stanford's courses tend to be high quality. Begins April 11th, but you can sign up later. Not available for credit, but you can get a certificate of completion if you finish the assignments. You can also audit it.

- WI Lesson Database –*Paid* WISELearn Curator Days @ CESAs - Apr and May

https://www.smore.com/yxud5 -DPI continues work with CESAs to create a database of lessons and other instructional materials for teachers. For going through the training, you can receive a stipend, and for the day of the meeting, your district will be reimbursed for a sub. Help teachers across the state have access to great ideas for science lessons!

Resources

- School Forest Grants

http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/weeb/Grant-Program/schoolForest/Pages/default.aspx - grant applications are due April 1st, and are only available to public schools with officially registered school forests. Maximum grants per school are up to $2500.

- Go Fund grants to get students outside

http://eeinwisconsin.org/core/item/page.aspx?s=122383.0.0.2209 - Get your students outside and get some money to help in doing so! Teachers at any grade in Wisconsin public schools, including early childhood educators, may apply to the Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation's GO Fund program to receive funding for outdoor forestry education or environmental education experiences. Applications are due April 3rd. Staff at field sites can also partner with a teacher to apply.

- Scott Kelly NASA photos database

http://www.windowsonearth.org/- Scott Kelly tweeted over 1000 photos will in space this past year. This site includes a database of those photos and a contest happening right now to pick favorites. It's a great resource for astronomy and earth science phenomena.

- Michigan Science Teacher Association - newsletter resources

http://goo.gl/jSymIt- The Michigan Science Teacher Association has some great articles as well in their newsletter. Here's a link to their latest.

- Assessment webinar recordings

https://goo.gl/fz8z9q- I set up some webinars on science assessment over the past couple of months with the Council of State Science Supervisors. If you're interested in checking them out, the recordings and slides can be found on this site. Topics included formative assessment, Washington state's work on creating a new standardized test, and cognitive labs (student think-alouds) to review test items.

Student Opportunities

- Wisconsin Crystal Growing Contest - happening now

http://xray.chem.wisc.edu/WICGC_2016.html- No entry fee, with one contest for HS students and one for MS students. Who can grow the largest and highest quality crystal?

- STEM Exploration Day for MS students - Tomahawk, WI - May 6th

http://www.uwsp.edu/conted/ConfWrkShp/Pages/STEM/ExplorationDay.aspx - A day of exploring STEM for middle school students - bring them to the UWSP Treehaven campus on May 6th! They'll do hands-on activities and explore STEM careers.

- Destination Imagination State Tournament - UWSP - April 16th

http://www.wisconsindi.org/index.php/event/wisconsin-di-affiliate-finals-tournament/ - this STEAM and service-learning competition engages students in challenges that move beyond the more traditional, technical STEM tournaments. Seeing it in action is a great way to decide if you'd like to get involved.

- Science Olympiad State Tournament - UW Stout - Apr 2nd

http://www.wisconsinso.org/state-tournament - Science Olympiad is hands on STEM, with engaging science and engineering learning! If you're not familiar with this program for MS and HS students, come check out the state tournament to learn what it's all about.