

Science Matters in Ohio

Support student achievement in science; a project of the Science Education Council of Ohio (SECO)

A partnership of the Science Education Council of Ohio, the Ohio Resource Council (ORC), the Center of Science and Industry (COSI), the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and others.

Supported by the National Science Teachers Association.

Science Matters is the largest networking initiative of the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA). This award-winning program is designed to improve the teaching and learning of science from kindergarten through 12th grade. NSTA is the world's largest organization dedicated to the improvement of science teaching and learning.

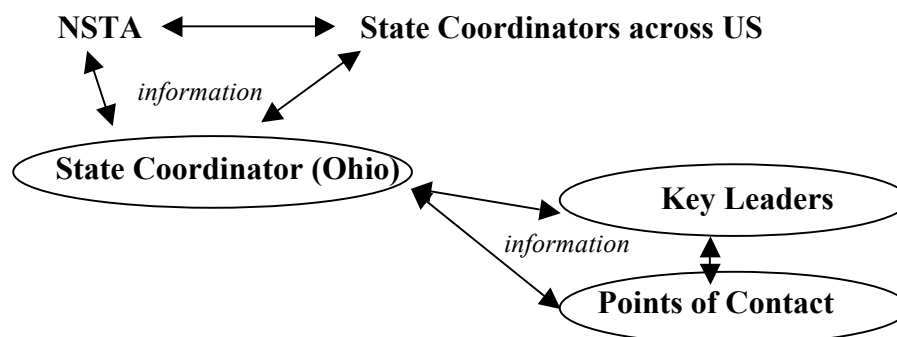
Science Matters in Ohio originally started in 2004 as an initiative known as Building a Presence for Science. The Science Education Council of Ohio (SECO), the Ohio Resource Center (ORC), the Center for Science and Industry (COSI Columbus), and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), as well as other science education leaders, remain committed to creating an action plan to have a greater and more enduring presence for science education in Ohio.

Our mission is to achieve science literacy for all students through standards-based teaching and learning, supported by a network of Key Leaders serving Points of Contact in every school building in Ohio.

Science Matters in Ohio Goals:

- * To create and maintain a network of Key Leaders in the state and Points of Contact in every school in the country.
- * To advocate and promote standards-based science teaching and learning.
- * To provide resources, including national and state standards, and professional development opportunities to promote and enhance teacher quality.
- * To implement and encourage the use of interactive communication tools, such as listservs and Web sites to enhance the sharing of information.
- * To increase vertical communication among K-12 science educators.
- * To ensure every student has the opportunity to learn from a qualified teacher.

How is the Network Designed?



Who is a Key Leader?

A Key Leader is a "team captain" to a group of Points of Contact for science in a designated geographic area. A Key Leader can be a classroom teacher, principal, science supervisor, university educator, or other science education-based professional.

Why Be a Key Leader?

- * To play a leadership role in a statewide effort to improve standards-based science teaching and learning.
- * To promote the use of standards-based science teaching and learning, Ohio Science Standards, share information about state-wide and local opportunities, and other science resources.
- * To engage in professional development and networking with science-teaching colleagues at local and state levels.
- * To gain professional recognition throughout the local community and the state as a leader in the effort to enhance science education.

Who is a Point of Contact?

A classroom teacher or administrator who volunteers to be an advocate and contact person for science in his or her school building.

Why Be a Point of Contact?

- * To participate in a statewide effort to increase understanding of standards-based science teaching and learning.
- * To engage in professional development and networking with science-teaching colleagues.
- * To share information about state-wide and local opportunities, and other science resources with science educators at your school
- * To gain professional recognition throughout the local community and the broader professional community as a leader in the effort to enhance science education.

Acknowledgements:

The Science Matters Steering Committee wishes to thank the SECO Board of Directors and the HC Starck Company for their support and for funding for Science Matters in Ohio professional development for Key Leaders and Points of Contacts.

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