

Minnesota students deserve science education from science teachers.

As a science teaching community we are ready for this.

We uplift this need for more well qualified and licensed Earth Science teachers.

There are programs developed in Minnesota ready, starting this summer.

Science teaching is becoming more true our Minnesotan vision for education.

The 2019 draft of the K-12 Minnesota Science Standards have asked us all to revisit our approaches to what and how we teach. These changes are making a difference for students. They ask us to teach for interconnected depth, to focus our energies on student experience and phenomena. The 2019 standards are crystal clear in their call for one life, one physical, and one earth science credit.

Minnesota Earth Science Teacher Association (MESTA) fully supports the clarification of the graduation requirements in science. *The amendment of this statute will clarify and agree with Minnesota Statute 120B.021 Required Academic Standards and 120B.02 Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota's Students.*

The proposed credit equivalency amendment will not do justice to Minnesota students. *We support a strong CTE program, but it shouldn't replace a strong science education.*

Minnesota – we love our land, water, and even our climate.

Our people deserve neighbors who understand how these have interacted since time immemorial. How our knowledge and traditions help us to be better humans living, eating, breathing, and raising families here. Earth and Space science is a relevant and quantitative science, and our state needs all students to have a rock solid understanding of it.

I speak today as the President of the Minnesota Earth Science Teachers Association. We welcome all to our organization and our professional conference. I am a licensed 5-8 and 9-12 science teacher, a CTE licensed teacher, and currently live, parent, and work in Minneapolis.

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