



A Position Statement of the
Michigan Science Teachers Association's
Support for the Michigan Science Standards

The Michigan Science Teachers Association enthusiastically endorses the Michigan Science Standards for all K-12 students adopted by the Michigan State Board of Education on November 10, 2015

In keeping with the mission statement of the Michigan Science Teachers Association “to stimulate, support and provide leadership for the improvement of science education throughout Michigan”, we played a key role in the writing and review process for this initiative. The Michigan Science Standards are based upon current science content and practice as expressed in the vision of A Framework for K-12 Science Education. They also reflect the current research on how students best learn science. They were benchmarked against international STEM powerhouses such as Canada, China, England, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Singapore and South Korea. Several of these Michigan science standards are specific to our state and the Great Lakes Basin, reflecting our unique and important role in the country and the world.

The Michigan Science Teachers Association actively encouraged parents, community members, and Michigan leaders in business and industry to provide input on the Michigan Science Standards, both in online surveys and in town hall meetings held across our state. Finally, the public comments gathered, representing the ideas of Michigan citizens, were used to create the final state science standards that were adopted by the State Board of Education.

Following their approval the Michigan Department of Education stated, “The adoption of new standards provides a tremendous opportunity in our state not only to improve science learning, but also to improve literacy and thinking skills of all children.”

The Michigan Science Teachers Association’s goal is to continually support and promote the effective, systematic, and sustained implementation of the Michigan

Science Standards. Science education based upon the Michigan Science Standards will increase scientific literacy levels of all students in our state. We contend that these standards will provide the skills required by Michigan students as they enter the increasingly complex business and industry workforce that is needed to promote Michigan's economy. The Michigan Science Standards will equip Michigan students for college, careers, and citizenship.