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Week of December 21, 2009

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New Jobs Bill Includes \$23 Billion for Education

On December 16 the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill intended to stimulate the economy and create jobs by redirecting more than \$154 billion from TARP (the Troubled Asset Relief Program). The measure includes \$23 billion for education to prevent layoffs and provide for school modernization, renovation, and repair.

- [Read the *Education Week* article](#)

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It Fits in Any Teacher's Stocking

Give the gift of membership this holiday season! Now, more than ever, that special science educator in your life—maybe someone just starting their teaching career?—needs the support of the largest organization dedicated to improving science teaching and learning for all in the world.

And for a limited time, even if you don't have someone in mind, you can now let NSTA designate a deserving educator to receive your gift! We'll identify science educators in need of additional support, they'll receive a free membership courtesy of your contribution, and you'll be a hero to someone working hard to engage young minds in the wonders of science! When you [click here](#) simply complete and return the form and your gift membership will be on its way to that special educator! If you want us to decide, simply print "Deserving Educator" on the line for "Membership Recipient," return the form to us, and we'll take care of the rest!

Choose from three membership categories:

New Teacher—\$34/yr. (first 5 years of teaching)
Student/Preservice—\$34/yr.
Individual—\$74/yr.

Membership includes the grade-specific journal of choice for the recipient teacher, a subscription to *NSTA Reports* (our monthly newspaper), discounts on NSTA Press® books and conference registration, and much more.

For more information, e-mail membership@nsta.org or call (703) 243-7100.

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NSTA's Chief Financial Officer Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award at 2009 Nonprofit CFO of the Year Award

Congratulations to Moira Fathy Baker, NSTA's chief financial officer and associate executive director of operations, for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award. Moira was honored last week at the 2009 Nonprofit CFO of the Year Awards luncheon in Washington, D.C., for her outstanding contributions in exceptional leadership, operational excellence, and commitment to the profession while promoting improved accountability and financial reporting practices.

- [Read the press release](#)

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NOAA's Teacher at Sea Program

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Teacher at Sea (TAS) program gives teachers a clearer insight into our ocean planet, a greater understanding of maritime work and studies, and increased environmental literacy by fostering an interdisciplinary research experience. The program provides a unique environment for learning and teaching by sending kindergarten through college-level teachers to sea aboard NOAA research and survey ships to work under the tutelage of scientists and crew. Then, armed with new understanding and experience, teachers bring this knowledge back to their classrooms. NOAA's Teacher at Sea Program is accepting applications until **December 31, 2009**, for its 2010 Field Season. Please visit "[About the Program](#)" to learn about TAS and "[How to Apply](#)" to access application materials.

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A National Conference on Science Education—Philadelphia 2010

Looking forward to what's in store for science education next year, teachers and administrators can count on unmatched face-to-face professional development through NSTA's annual event. Scheduled for March 18-21 in historic Philadelphia, program strands include:

- Meeting the Unique Needs of Urban and Rural Science Learners
- Connecting Content: Between, Within, and Among Subjects
- Closing the Digital Generation Gap Between Teachers and Students
- Rekindling the Fires of Science Teaching and Learning

The kickoff begins on Wednesday, March 17, with ten content-driven, [in-depth institutes](#) (PDIs) and their follow-on pathway sessions along with a [research dissemination conference](#) called *Keeping*

Elementary Primary: Current Research and Best Practices for Quality Instruction.

Beginning Thursday, attendees can find symposia with follow-on web seminars and intensive short courses meant to build content knowledge in a wide range of topics critical to teachers in all science disciplines. Nearly 2000 concurrent sessions are available for every grade band and for the newest preservice teacher to the career professional who writes curriculum or policy. Add to that, we offer terrific field trips, networking with peers and pros, and speakers like Bill Nye the Science Guy and Greg Marshall, a scientist, inventor, and filmmaker, who developed the Crittercam. Visit www.nsta.org/philadelphia for more information. **January 22** is our earlybird deadline.

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From the NSTA Calendar: Don't Miss These Opportunities

- [Honeywell Educators at Space Academy Scholarship Program](#) (deadline **December 31**). Middle school science and math teachers, blast off to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, with a five-day scholarship. Train like an astronaut, and find out how to inspire lifelong learning through space science simulations and activities.
- [Nickelodeon's Big Green Grants Program](#) (deadline **December 31**). Need funding for an environmental project? K–9 teachers can apply for up to \$5,000 to educate and inspire kids to take care of the environment, be active, live healthily, and engage in community service.
- [National Teachers Hall of Fame](#) (deadline **January 2**). PreK–12 teachers with 20+ years in the classroom deserve recognition. The Hall of Fame honors these teachers and provides a \$1,000 scholarship for a student in their school district who aspires to join their ranks, along with \$1,000 worth of educational materials from the Pearson Learning Group for their school district. Nominate a colleague who has devoted his/her life to education.

Visit the [NSTA's online calendar](#), constantly updated, for more science education opportunities.

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NSTA Press Helps You Meld Science and Math

Recent releases from NSTA Press are two hands-on guides, [Activities Linking Science with Math, K–4](#) and [Activities Linking Science with Math, 5–8](#). These popular texts provide teachers with 20 activities to integrate the study of science and math and incorporate the visual arts, social sciences, and language arts as well. The engaging activities allow students to explore and discover through their own observations and conclusions. Included with each rigorous lesson is a list of needed materials, simple procedures, discussion questions and assessment techniques. Aligned with national standards for both science and math, topics cover general science, physical science, chemistry, Earth science, and life science. Visit www.nsta.org/store to order these useful and well-written titles by author John Eichinger.

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NSTA Express Takes a Winter Nap

Happy Winter Solstice to all our readers! Your weekly e-newsletter will be taking two weeks off to rest—and celebrate!—with our families and friends.

Happy Holidays! See you on January 11.

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And Don't Forget...

Visit our **member services web page** to ensure that NSTA has your current [contact information](#). And when the time comes to renew—select the "Autorenew" option!

Visit the [NSTA Science Store](#) for an outstanding array of bestselling books and teaching resources. Receive 30% off the price of the December featured book, [Science Beyond the Classroom](#).

Professional development courses in your future?
Online options give you a world of choice.
Take a look at these groups offering [courses](#) for science educators!

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