



# NEW JERSEY SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.

August 8, 2016

Principal Mr. Jeffrey Pollock  
Hurffville Elementary School  
200 Hurffville-Grenlock Road  
Sewell, NJ 08080

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Dear Mr. Pollock,

On behalf of New Jersey Science Teachers Association (NJSTA) and its Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award (MPSMA) Committee, we would like to congratulate and thank **Mrs. Tracy Colligan** for participation in our Summer Institute, "Preparing Elementary Teachers to Implement NGSS," held at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ, July 18-22, 2016. Mrs. Colligan was one of 22 educators selected from a broad pool of elementary school teachers in New Jersey. The teachers received 40 hours of instruction and left the institute with curricular tools to interest students in science topics specifically for their classroom. These hands-on and data-focused lessons, demonstrations, and field experiences support the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards and Next Generation Science Standards as well as address Common Core Mathematics and English / Language Arts Standards.

Educators such as Mrs. Colligan provide inspiration for our students and fellow teachers throughout our State and the opportunity to excite and motivate colleagues with new ideas for the science classroom. We appreciate Mrs. Colligan's contributions to professional development and dedication to improving science education in New Jersey. Thank you for supporting her application to the program.

As part of being selected to participate in the 2016 Simmons summer Institute, Mrs. Colligan is invited to attend one day of the New Jersey Science Convention (NJSC) to be held on October 25-26, 2016, where she will be recognized as a Simmons Scholar. We are asking that you support Mrs. Colligan further by allowing her to attend this valuable Convention and participate fully. A special reunion session for this year's Simmons Scholars is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26, 2016. Considering the financial constraints and resulting reduced opportunities for professional development that New Jersey's educators face, NJSTA will cover the costs associated with the one-day registration fee for Mrs. Colligan. In essence, this subsidy will free funds so that additional teachers from your district will be able attend the NJSC. Information about the Convention can be found at [www.njscienceconvention.org](http://www.njscienceconvention.org). Approximately 200 Standards-based sessions will be conducted throughout the two-day Convention, which will be held at the Princeton Marriott at Forrestal. Thank you for your part in making Mrs. Colligan's participation possible.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Zanone  
NJSTA MPSMA Institute Administrator  
[clzanone@gmail.com](mailto:clzanone@gmail.com)

Scott Goldthorp  
NJSTA President