



Education Development Center's Commitment Letter in Support of the goals of the
National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Action Collaborative on
Advancing Science Teaching and Learning in K-12

January 10, 2025

The massive shifts taking place in societies and economies due to AI, demographic transitions, the global pandemic, the growing value of data literacy, and the impact of climate change are remaking the settings where young people learn and will work. EDC's vision is to forge partnerships that cultivate the strengths of learners and those who support them, joining forces with communities, employers, governments, funders, and systems.

Foundational to this work is building on the assets and resilience that youth possess, recognize, champion, and reinforce with one another. We also must help construct—and ensure equitable access to—systems that promote scientific literacy and future-proof skills. These skills include analytical thinking, creative thinking, resilience, flexibility, agility, motivation, self-awareness, curiosity, and lifelong learning, as the world will continue to change.

EDC is committed to cultivating environments where work is a vehicle for personal growth, equitable community development, economic growth, and global progress. This commitment extends especially to science education, where preparing the next generation of teachers creates a ripple effect - empowering educators who will inspire students to pursue fulfilling careers in STEM fields and contribute to solving society's most pressing challenges.

EDC is delighted to join the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Collaborative on Advancing Science Teaching and Learning in K-12 (CASTL-K12) and commits to supporting its goals.

CASTL-K12 will pursue four primary goals:

1. Develop a coherent strategy for supporting implementation of science standards across states and districts
2. Launch and coordinate a networked community of practice for stakeholders at all levels and across sectors
3. Build on and share existing evidence-based policies, tools, and examples
4. Develop a coherent communication and engagement strategy for advancing K-12 science and engineering education broadly.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Taylor".

Cindy Taylor, Ph.D.
SVP and Director, US Division
Education Development Center