

From the Editor: Norm Schmidt

My elder colleagues and I are feeling pretty good about retirement during this year of virtual classes and crazy, unpredictable planning. The pandemic is taking a toll on everyone but clearly education is taking a big hit. There will be a few online resources in this newsletter that may be helpful but resources don't begin to replace the normal teaching environment that students, parents, administrators and teachers have not enjoyed for most of a year.

And people are dying, including educators and students.

CRCST is in emergency mode as well. We have been unable to hold board meetings in person and while we had a keynote speaker much in advance of our annual Fall Conference, that event certainly could not be held.

We tried a collaborative event with the Ohio Earth Science Teachers Association but that turned out to be primarily a zoom meeting that was provided by OESTA with little help from us (a link to that talk is in this letter and it's good, really good – Dinosaurs). Local conferences planned by the Science Education Council of Ohio (SECO) were also cancelled.

So, what's left? Why should being involved in a local science educator

organization matter? How can CRCST benefit you? To paraphrase a rather famous JFK speech: Ask not what your CRCST can do for you (at this critical time), ask instead what you can do for CRCST.

We gain membership through our Fall Conference and our Spring Symposium attendance. Neither happened this year. Most educators that attend these events opt for a one-year membership. If you are one such individual, consider joining for another year, or two or three, by filling out the membership application included here (or found at www.crcst.org) and sending it in.

Consider that CRCST is the oldest science teachers organization in Ohio and consider that this group has been engaged in sharing ideas with educators at all levels and in a variety of venues including public, private and religious schools as well as museum educators since the early 1940's. Perhaps we should weather this virus and continue to be a worthwhile professional organization – and one that looks good on your resume.

We need you to join or rejoin (\$15 per year) and if you are interested, we need leaders to join the board of directors, too.

Usually I include a president's column in these missives but I have recently

volunteered to be the interim president so no additional column is needed. I hope to be replaced when next we can hold a Fall Conference.

**PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER
WITH YOUR SCIENCE TEACHING
COLLEAGUES**



The Ohio Earth Science Teachers Association has a new president following Ron Fabick's rather lengthy term (30 years?). Valerie Pettigrew is a middle school science department chair at New Albany-Plain Local Schools and the new OESTA president. She was able to make a connection with a professor at The Ohio State University, Dale Gnidovec (gnidovec.1@osu.edu). The title of the talk is: A Paleontologist Looks at the Jurassic Park Movies. Here is the link - Meeting Recording:

https://ohconnect.zoom.us/rec/share/zKMTw_EFz7310jVqq0rid6d-YPjH3ZXjj8HKLcAH1NhUzJwkIk0E1XP

Read NSTA's free online journal, Connected Science Learning

CSL explores programs codeveloped by schools and out-of-school organizations, including museums, science centers, afterschool providers, zoos & aquaria. If you're involved in program development or want to start STEM partnerships in your community, this is the journal for you. You can view the articles and subscribe at www.nsta.org/connected-science-learning.

[Mbfja2eG3.cQhFxZpxmDRrAQfe](https://www.nsta.org/connected-science-learning)

Access Passcode: c%FmRwX8

Resources for Virtual Science Education

1. From biology to chemistry to physics, these science-oriented websites will help your students learn more about the world around them; they'll make observations, notice patterns, and get important information about plants, animals, and people.

<https://www.commonsense.org/education/top-picks/terrific-websites-for-science>

Whether they're playing with genetic

simulations, designing solutions to combat climate change, exploring videos of weather phenomena, or engaging in authentic citizen science, students can use these sites to engage in practices and skills crucial for the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

2. Ten websites for science educators:

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/websites-for-science-teachers-eric-brunsell>

3. Websites for Middle and High School Science:

<https://www.weareteachers.com/best-science-websites/>

Developed and/or found and used by teachers.

4. Updated free science resources:

<https://thejournal.com/articles/2020/04/28/updated-free-science-resources-for-schools-during-the-covid-19-outbreak.aspx>

5. NOVA

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/>

6. Elementary Science Resources

<https://www.science4us.com/free-resources/>

7. Science resources from the Ohio

Department of Education:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Science/Resources-for-Science>

8. Sunrise Science Blog – Middle

School:

<http://sunrisescience.blog/distance-learning-tech-tools/>

9. Online resources from POPSCI:

<https://www.popsci.com/story/diy/free-learning-educational-resources-online/>

10. Ten online tools for science education:

<https://www.gettingsmart.com/2018/02/top-10-online-tools-that-can-bring-science-to-life-for-your-students/>



CRCST Membership Form

* Required



CRCST Membership Option * (Circle your answer)

1 Year Membership -- \$15

2 Year Membership -- \$30

3 Year Membership -- \$45

4 Year Membership -- \$59

Name *

Your answer

Email Address *

Your answer

Home address

Your answer

Contact phone number

Your answer

School or Work Name *

Your answer

Are you interested in becoming involved in the leadership of CRCST? * (Circle your answer)

Yes

No

Maybe

Payment Options *

By Mail: Send check, made out to CRCST, to Mark Waner, John Carroll University Dept. of Chemistry, 1 John Carroll Blvd., University Hts. OH 44118

This form is available online at www.crcst.org : You will be directed to a PayPal link after you submit the form

Questions?

Contact Mark Waner at 216-397-4791, mwaner@jcu.edu

Please share this newsletter with your science teaching colleagues via email or printed copy