HASTI 2020 Election

**President Candidate: Kristen Poindexter**

Biographical Information: I have been a Kindergarten teacher for 19 years. My passion is teaching Science and I have been recognized for that passion as the 2014 National Shell Science Teaching Award and the 2014 PAEMST Award recipient from Indiana for my Science teaching. Additionally, in 2018 I received the Robert E. Yager Award for Excellence in Science Teaching. I have worked with the Indiana Science Initiative for the last 8 years, training teachers how to use their inquiry based Science kits. I have also proudly served as the HASTI Vice-President for the past year. I am also serving as the Communication Director as well as the Professional Development chair for HASTI.

Position Statement: I believe that Science should be taught to even our youngest learners. Elementary students are naturally curious and want to know more about the world around them. Science is the vehicle that helps them ask questions and find answers (and create more questions!). As HASTI President, I will work to increase the membership of Elementary School teachers and sessions for them at our conference each year, I will continue my work to strengthen our online presence and help to provide high quality videos and links where teachers can learn more about teaching Science.

**Vice-President Candidate: David Butler**

**Biographical Information:** Current Employment: 9-12 Biology Teacher; Southern Wells High School, Poneto; Degrees: MS in Secondary Education from the University of Southern Indiana, 1994 / BS in Education (Primary Area in Biology and Supporting in Earth and Space) from Ball State University, 1989; Dual Credit Certification, 2019 and Computer Endorsement, 1999. HASTI Activities: Conference presenter on numerous science and education topics, 1995 – current; District 3 Director Board Member, 2019 – current; Award Committee Member, 2019 – current; At-Large Director Board Member, 2017 – 2019. HASTI Publications: *The Importance of Addressing Biogeography in Secondary Biology Classrooms*, 2019; *DNA Replication Activity Modeling a Replica of DNA in Somatic Cells*, 2013; *Extracting DNA from Human Cheek Cells*, 2004; *Our Internal Timepiece*, 1999; *Organic Breakfast Lab*, 1995; *Making Reading in Science Motivational*, 1995. Honors: Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching State Finalist, 2019; National Teacher Hall of Fame Semi-Finalist, 2018 and 2019; Excellence in Education Award, Spotlighting Exceptional Teachers in Community, 2015; Clyde Motts Award for Innovative High School Science Teaching, 2016; Neil Campbell Fellows Award, 2012; NABT Outstanding Biology Teacher of the Year, 2012; Numerous State and Local Grants. Teaching Experience: 1989-present

**Position Statement:** One day, I overheard a student remark, “It’s so beautiful”, while they watched their own DNA take form inside a test tube. Even though that comment warmed my heart, that simple remark most certainly helped to provide a purpose for doing the activity, motivation for studying genetics, and an appreciation for the magnificence of science. This is no different from wanting to provide drive, enthusiasm and appreciation for teachers in the area of science. I want to continue to contribute to education by sharing concepts, activities, and strategies with my fellow educators in order to keep the beauty of teaching science alive. The comradery that would ensue while interacting with other teachers, board members and governmental officials would help bring about opportunities to collaborate and improve science in schools. As an executive board member, I will have the opportunity to offer guidance, resources and support to science teachers. By being involved at so many levels of science education, I have helped educators be disseminators of knowledge and thus help elevate the quality of science education in Indiana. As Vice-President, I wish to continue to service educators by upholding our mission statements and promoting HASTI involvement for all science teachers K-16.

**Treasurer: Greg McCurdy**

**Biographical Information:** High School Biology teacher at Salem High School

Received a STEM grant to teach students how to build their own guitar.

Was awarded the Teacher of the year of a rural Indiana school

HASTI Treasurer for the past 11 years.

HASTI Past President, Conference Chair and District Director

HASTI presenter at state conferences.

Position Statement:

Greg is very passionate about science education and HASTI. After retirement in 2020, he will devote 100% of his time to HASTI and its growth.

**Middle School District: Suzanne Cunningham**

**Biographical Information:** **Education:**

Bachelor of Science Degree; Major in Biology, Creighton University; Omaha, NE 1976

Courses taken as non-degree major in the College of Education, Department of Curriculum & Instruction, Purdue University; West Lafayette, IN: Nature of Science in Science Teaching (EDCI 51800), Introduction to K-12 STEM Education (EDCI 53900) (spring 2018), EDCI 69500 (summer 2018), Survey of Science Education (ECI 51700) (fall 2018)

**Experience:**

**Purdue University; Research** Agronomy Department: *Research Crop Physiologist*.September 1990 to Present

**Purdue University; Outreach**

Teacher workshop presentations (2007-10, 2012-17) and assisted at American Society of Plant Biology Exhibit (2003-10, 2012-2016) at National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)

Teacher workshop presentations at state (IN 2011-19) (IL 2015-2019) science teacher meetings

Fall/spring K-12 programs for 1st through 4th graders at Meig’s Farm; 1995 to 2009

SpringFest (1991-1999, 2003-2008); Project WET – 3rd, 4th graders (2000-2008); AgDay – 4th graders (2000-2005, 2008); Purdue Agribusiness Science Academy (PASA) – 6th to 8th graders (Calumet campus, 2016); PASA – high school (Purdue campus, 2018)

**Professional Affiliations:**

NSTA, 2001 to present; Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc., 2005 to present; Illinois Science Teachers Association, 2015 to present; National Middle School Science Teachers Association, 2016 to present

American Society of Plant Biology, 1991 to 2016; Crop Science Society of America/Agronomy Society of America, 1991 to 2016

**Position Statement:**

To be successful as an adult, one needs a basic sense of the world, an ability to communicate (reading, writing, speaking), and the skill to learn for a successful career. All students yearn to learn; it is necessary to instill in them the confidence to question and search for answers throughout their K-12 education.

The educational experience and learning skills of children should continually grow and develop, ultimately giving children confidence to seek knowledge on their own. By engaging students in science learning, I hope they develop an appreciation for science, gain a better understanding of the world in which they live, and develop skills for their future. But, a good science/STEM education does not mean just learning biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science. Communication is a critical aspect of science learning. Communication is a two way street, and to be successful communicators in the multi-cultural world in which we live today teachers and students need to learn from one another. Science education includes learning from a vast array of cultures and disciplines.

Learning science should be an integral part of all classrooms at all grade levels. Children are curious, and this curiosity should be nurtured. Science ought to be incorporated into English and Math studies as English and Math should be incorporated into science. Students need a better understanding of the world in which they live and will work. All teachers should have the tools necessary to introduce all students to the practices and applications of science.

As the District 6 Director my goal will be to get every school within District 6 to send representatives from K to 2, 3 to 5 and 6 to 8 grades to take part in the HASTI annual conference. It is especially important for beginning teachers to attend this conference, participate in workshops, learn new methods, collect valuable resources, and meet colleagues willing to assist them on their teaching journey.

**District 1 District: Open**

**District 2: Tracy Streider**

**Biographical Information:** Section One:  
• Principal Lincoln Elementary (2018-present) South Bend Schools (SBCSC)  
• AP Marshall Intermediate (2016-2018)  
• Teacher SBCSC (2000-2016)  
• Degrees: Administration, Indiana University South Bend (IUSB) (2013)  
• MS Education, IUSB (2007)  
• BS Elementary: ESL, reading, and kindergarten, IUSB (2000)  
Section Two: HASTI  
• Joined (2015); District 2 Director (2017-2019); Attended conference (2016-2019); Presented (2017-2018); Publications Committee Chair (2019-present)  
Section Three:  
• SBCSC Equity and Intercultural relations committee (2019-present)  
• SBCSC Code of Conduct Committee (2019-presnt)  
• BCCE conference presenter, Notre Dame, IN (2018)  
• RJE district committee (2017-present)  
• Restorative Justice Trainer (2017-present)  
• Adjunct Teacher IUSB (2016)  
• ACE Science Grant (2015)  
• PLTW Teacher/Trainer (2015-present)  
• Purdue Engineering lesson planning (2015-2018)  
• INScience Kit Trainer: 5th Grade (2014-2018)  
• ISTEM Mentor/Coach (2014-2018)  
• IUSB Education Advisory Board (2014-present)  
• Excellence in Educational Leadership Award, IUSB (2013)  
• Indiana Educator Licensure Review Committee (2012-2013)  
• ASCD (2010-present)  
• 8-Step district-wide math calendar and assessment: multiple grades (2009-2012)  
• Chair of Math Building Committee , Lincoln Primary (2009-2014)  
• Teacher of the Year for Studebaker Primary (2005)  
• District wide adoptions for LA, mathematics, science, and social studies (2001-2017)

**Position Statement:** As District 2 Director, I work to promote HASTI and the importance of Science education, especially at the elementary level. I trained teachers in STEM throughout District 2. I mentored teachers and future STEM mentors for multiple years. As an administrator, I intentionally create time in my teachers’ daily schedules for Science and STEM. I created a Computer Science class for elementary that will be offered district-wide this fall. For HASTI, I design, disseminate, and present surveys to improve the conference and member benefits. I attend, present, and volunteer yearly at the annual conference. I created a HASTI PGP document for conference participants and a HASTI brochure to promote membership. I present at other science conferences as a HASTI representative.  
Recently, I was appointed over the Publications committee and The Hoosier Science Teacher. Through my efforts, the peer review board has grown, articles have gone out for review and editing, and the journal was published in Fall 2019.  
With re-election, I plan to continue to grow HASTI’s presence in Indiana through increased District 2 membership and knowledge of The Hoosier Science Teacher. I will provide members with information about professional development, HASTI initiatives, and networking opportunities across the state.

**District 8: Teddie Phillipson-Mower**

**Biographical Information:** Special Project Administrator: Science and Environmental Education, Communications, and Advancing Research Impacts for Society, Indiana University - IPE (2018-current). Masters, Biology, IUB; EdS, Science and Environmental Education, IUB  
  
HASTI ACTIVITIES: Social Committee, 1998 - 1999 and 2003-05; conference presentations on topics such as nature of science, teaching physics with the 5Es, and parasites; Professional Development Committee (current)  
ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AND HONORS  
Associate Director for the IU Office of Science Outreach (2014 - 2018). Prior, Assistant Professor, Director of the U of L Center for Environmental Education and Program Director of the MS Environmental Education Program, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY; and Visiting Scholar and Secondary Science Program Director, School of Education, Indiana University Bloomington.  
Climate Change Leadership Award - Louisville Zoo/Polar Bear International; Project WILD Recognition Award (IN Facilitator and KY Regional Coordinator)  
Indiana State Science Olympiad (competition organizer, supervisor for Detective and Herpetology, and expert volunteer recruitment); Indiana Envirothon Planning Committee, Indiana Junior Academy (organizer, test writer, judge)  
Co PI/PI for Educator Quality and NSF grants for sustained and focused PD for M/H school science teachers  
100+ presentations at professional conferences; 25+ publications and technical reports; NSF and EPA review panels

**Position Statement:** I've had a rewarding career that spans teaching pre-K through 20; formal/informal and rural/urban contexts; and includes research, engagement, and policy. In an age of accelerated knowledge production and dissemination as well as increasingly complex problems, our democracy requires a citizenship which possesses critical thinking skills and scientific literacy. Preparing Indiana students to meet these challenges is at the core of what we do. HASTI is our conduit for success. Working together to meet the needs of Hoosier science teachers we harness our collective wisdom, innovation, and inspiration to lead Indiana into a positive future.  
I am committed to the mission of HASTI: growth, leadership and professional development, and voice for science education. As district 8 is a large area, I would recruit someone from each county to form a Science Education Leadership Hub. The Hub will monitor the needs of local environments, develop a strategic plan that supports HASTI's mission, and take action for district 8. We have several entities in our district that are supportive of science education and educators. Building relationships through projects with the ability to scale up statewide would be a win for them, a win for district 8, and a win for HASTI.