This issue of the Science Matters eBlast is filled with Pre-K through high school opportunities and resources for both teachers and students. Please share the eBlast with your colleagues. It is also available in the Science Learning Community of SAS. If you have questions or items for Science Matters, contact Dave Bauman: davbauman@pa.gov

A Super-Duper full moon will happen on the night of November 13-14. The full moon and the lunar perigee happen on the same night, and this is the closest approach the moon has made to the Earth since January 26, 1948. Those of us who are younger than 68 have never seen a full moon this big . . . and the next one won’t happen until 2034. For most of us, we have never been this close to the moon before!

Professional Opportunities

PSTA Annual Conference will be held on November 30 – December 2 at the Penn Stater in State College. Early Registration ends on November 15. The Advance Program is available on the PSTA website and in the SAS Science Learning Community Forum. Previous eBlasts included sessions grounded in NGSS which are NOT included in the advance program. Check the previous eBlasts in the Science Learning Community. Early registration will be ending soon . . . don’t wait too long! Here are some additional sessions from the conference:

Title: Homemade Science - https://www.youtube.com/user/YeanyScience
Presenter: Bruce Yeaney

Title: Digital Technologies and Performance Assessment in the Science Classroom
Presenter: Leighann Forbes

Title: Survivor: Forestry Lessons (E&E)
Presenter: Erica Cichetti and Beth Horner

Title: Interdisciplinary Learning for a Changing Planet
Presenter: Diana Cole

Title: Maple Syrup (E&E)
Presenter: Doug Brandt

Title: Seed to Market (E&E)
Presenter: Jeannie Harris, Jeanne Carlson, and Jeffery Manikowski

Title: Scientific Literacy through Real World Problem Solving
Presenter: Jocelyn McRae

Title: Finding Meaning in Elementary STEM Activities
Presenter: Carissa Madeira
PSTA Leadership Day – A Common Vision of Science Education in Pennsylvania will be held on November 30 at the Penn Stater, State College. The full day and evening conference will focus on Three Dimensional Teaching and Learning, constructing a coherent K-12 science curricula, implementing a Three Dimensional Learning Model, supporting teachers with high quality professional development, and networking to share resources and expertise. Resource People include Brett Moulding, Peter McLaren, and Carla Zembal-Saul. Participants will receive A Vision and Plan for Science Teaching and Learning. In addition, districts who have been using NGSS and the Three Dimensional Learning Model will be sharing their experiences in implementation of new science curricula. Further in depth sessions will be offered at PSTA on December 1. The program and registration materials for the Leadership Day are available in the SAS Science Learning Community.

Reminders

SAS Training – Coming to a location near you will be a SAS Training held by the Content Advisors from PDE. Sessions are planned for Pittsburgh PaTTAN, Colonial IU20, Harrisburg PaTTAN, State College, Northwest Tri-County IU5, Hilton Scranton, and East PaTTAN. It is designed to review all the new enhancements and resources within the SAS Site. Registration is located at IU 5.

PAEE is currently accepting proposals for workshops for the 2017 Conference. The conference will be held on March 13 and 14 at the McKeever Environmental Learning Center. The theme is Deepening Connections, Inspiring Innovation. More information and proposal forms are available on the PAEE Website.

The US Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools application is now open and available on PDE’s Green Ribbon School website. Applications for GRS are due on December 5, 2016. Download the application to help make submission easier!

PA State Parks continue to offer innovative, multi-modal educator workshops across the state. Participants will receive Act 48 credit. Continuous updates of workshops can be found at: http://pennsylvaniagov.enterprise.localist.com/search/events?search=teacher+workshops

Grants, Awards, Contests
NYSC – The National Youth Science Camp is now accepting applications for graduating high school students from Pennsylvania. The camp is limited to two students from each state, which is an amazing honor. This is a phenomenal experience for students that will take place in West Virginia, June 14-July 8 . . . and all expenses are paid! Applications are now available online. Start the process immediately!

NSTA Awards and Recognition Program recognizes exceptional and innovative science educators. The deadline for all awards is December 15, 2016. NSTA Awards and Recognitions.

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching application will be available the first week of November. PAEMST is a phenomenal program that recognizes excellence in the teaching of science. By going to the PAEMST website, you can sign up for notification of information regarding the program.

DEP Environmental Education Grants have been revamped for the 2017 grant round. More information is on the DEP Grant webpage.

Science Matters Information

If someone sent you this eBlast, you can become a member of Science Matters to receive it directly! Go to: http://pascience.org/Science-Matters.php

Science Matters is an initiative of the Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association and the National Science Teachers Association to promote quality science education, through the sharing of information, resources, and professional development opportunities. The Pennsylvania state coordinator is Dave Bauman: davbauman@pa.gov.