

# CAS Fall Conference



**Monday, Oct. 19, 2009**

**7:45 am – 2:30pm**



**CT Science Center**

250 Columbus Blvd, Hartford, 06103

**"Science for 21<sup>st</sup> Century School Leaders"**

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Michael Klentschy**  
*Closing Achievement Gaps Through Inquiry-Based Science*



# Agenda

- 7:45-8:30am Registration
- 8:30-9:00am Welcome and Awards
- 9:00-10:00am Keynote Address - Dr. Michael Klentschy
- 10:00-11:30am Science Exploration & Curriculum with Science Center Staff & Exhibits
- 11:30-12:30pm Breakout Session 1
- 12:30-1:15pm Lunch
- 1:30-2:30pm Breakout Session 2
- 2:30-5:00pm Science Center will be open for Premier Screening of 3D film "Wild Ocean" & Exhibits

## Who Should Attend?

- Key Teachers
- Building Administrators
- District Administrators
- BOE Members

## Why Attend?

- Discover how science learning improves student performance
- Enhance professional growth opportunities for faculty
- Explore how to engage your students in science activities
- Experience the new Connecticut Science Center





## **Keynote Speaker: Dr. Michael Klentschy** **Closing Achievement Gaps Through** **Inquiry-Based Science**

There are successful research-based strategies in closing student achievement gaps not only in science, but also in literacy and mathematics as well. The session will also highlight the advantages of hands-on inquiry supported by literacy strategies versus a text only approach to science instruction. Specific emphasis will be placed on strategies related to the science-literacy connection with the use and application of writing in science through science notebooks, language acquisition strategies for English Learners and diverse student populations, and the importance of class discussions as key factors.

Dr. Michael Klentschy is a researcher in the Graduate School of Education at San Diego State University. He is currently studying the longitudinal effects of inquiry-based science education on language minority populations and with the science-literacy connection in North Carolina, Idaho and Colorado. He is the former Superintendent of Schools of the El Centro School District in El Centro, California. He served in that capacity from February 1994 – June 2007. He received his doctorate degree in educational research and evaluation from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Dr. Klentschy was named the Southern California Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators in 2001. In November 2004, an international jury, containing 5 Nobel Laureates, in Saint Etienne, France named Dr. Klentschy as co-laureate for the inaugural Le Prix Purkwa – (International prize for the scientific literacy of the children of the planet). The National Science Education Leadership Association named him Administrator of the Year for 2005. The California Science Teacher's Association named him the recipient of the Margaret Nicholson Award for lifetime service to science education in 2007. He is the author of *Using Science Notebooks in Elementary Classrooms* by NSTA Press and also served as a contributing editor for *Linking Science and Literacy in K-8 Classrooms* also by NSTA Press. His latest book - *Scaffolding Science Inquiry through Lesson Design* was recently released by Heinemann Press.



# Breakout Session 1

11:30am – 12:30pm

## 1. School Science Safety & Liability!

*Ken Roy, Director of Environmental Health & Safety  
Glastonbury Public Schools; Safety Compliance Consultant*

This session will focus on basic school science safety legal requirements and best professional practice, in addition to required duty of care and teacher/administrator liability issues. Administrators will gain exposure to OSHA, NFPA and other requirements for science instruction in their schools, in addition to their legal expectations/ramifications.

## 2. CMT Science Results

*Liz Buttner, CSDE Science Consultant*

Presenter will discuss CMT science results and what the scores can tell us about curriculum, instruction and student learning. Learn how your school-wide science improvement efforts can be bolstered by participation in MSP instructional coaching academies or resource collaboratives.

## 3. One Middle School's Journey to an Inquiry Based Science Curriculum

*Melinda Meyer – K-8 Science Coordinator, New Canaan PS  
Linda Spenard – Assistant Principal, Saxe Middle School*

Participants will hear the strategies employed by one middle school as they shifted instructional practices from a traditional “cook-book lab program” to an inquiry based model. Samples of student scientific notebooks and unit templates will be reviewed.



## 4. Creating a Culture of Science

*Doreen Duren, Principal,  
Stevens Elementary School, Wallingford  
Deb Fernandes and Kathy Hanisko,  
Grade 4 Teachers, Stevens Elementary School,  
Wallingford*

Inquiry based science provides the opportunity for all students to experience success. An elementary school will share their experiences with science note booking, formative assessment and professional development. Participants will have the opportunity to view student notebooks and classroom observation templates.

## 5. The CT Science Center – Your Science Education Resource!

Spend some time with the program managers at the CT Science Center. You will receive an overview of all of our programs, such as field trip information for your schools and professional development opportunities for you and your teachers. Come and see why we say, “We are your education resource center!”



# Breakout Session 2

1:30pm – 2:30pm

## 1. Using Science Notebooks in Classrooms

*Dr. Michael Klentschy, Keynote Speaker*

This session will focus on the role that student science notebooks play as a tool for students to make evidence based explanations and as an effective assessment tool when teaching inquiry based science lessons. Participants will learn how to get started using science notebooks, how to embed ELD strategies for EL students, and information related the seven essential components of science notebooks: question, prediction, planning, observing and collecting data, claims-evidence, conclusions and reflection. Writing scaffolds, frames, templates and prompts designed to help students get started will be provided for each component.

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## Registration

Register online at [www.casciac.org/register](http://www.casciac.org/register). Click on "CAS Fall Conference 2009-2010". The closing date for submitting registrations is October 9, 2009, but early registration is encouraged.

## Fees

A registration fee of \$75.00 per participant for CAS members and \$95.00 for non-CAS members, includes the conference, materials, parking (see note below), as well as the luncheon and refreshments. To check school membership status, go to [www.casciac.org](http://www.casciac.org) and click on *Directory*.

Check or purchase order should be made payable to the Connecticut Association of Schools and mailed to 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410, Attn: Noreen Liberopoulos.

Refunds will not be given due to cancellation after Oct. 9th or for non-appearance at the event.

**CEU's**



CAS will award .4 CEUs for your full attendance at the CAS Fall Conference.

## Directions

You can find directions to The Connecticut Science Center, 250 Columbus Blvd, Hartford, 06103 on their website: <http://www.ctsciencecenter.org/visit/getting-here.aspx>.

**Validated Parking in the CT Science Center Parking Garage Only.**