President’s Report
2023-2024

Loris Chen, NMLSTA President 2023-2024
The goals for 2023-2024

- Increase collaboration with other NSTA affiliate organizations,
- Develop supports for early career middle level science teachers,
- Continue to provide webinars and conference presentations opportunities for NMLSTA members,
- Continue recognition of teachers through the Paul DeHart Hurd Award and Classroom Teacher Awards,
- Complete the review and revision of governance documents
Collaboration with other NSTA affiliates was initiated this year. The science teaching associations of all 50 states were contacted. The initial response was fair. A new page on the NMLSTA website was created. Seven associations' logos and websites are currently posted. We will be working on growing this program in 2024-2025.
EARLY CAREER TEACHER NETWORK- Kristin Slota, Chair

The committee defined the target group as middle school science teachers in the service years range of 1 to 5 years and their mentors.

The committee refined goals for developing supports. The main activity during 2023-2024 was collaboration with the NSTA Middle Level Committee to survey needs and develop resources for early career teachers. To raise awareness of the initiative, the NMLSTA Early Career Teacher Network did a poster session presentation at NSTA Denver 24.

The committee will continue to develop outreach and supports during 2024-2025.
The Constitution committee completed its review of the Constitution. Revisions were proposed, and reviewed by the Board and membership. The amended constitution was ratified by the Board.

The Bylaws committee completed a review of the Bylaws and proposed revisions. The proposed revisions were shared with the general membership via posting on the NMLSTA website. Revised Bylaws were adopted by the Board of Directors March 21, 2024.

The Constitution and Bylaws committees were dissolved having completed review and revision of governance documents.
AWARDS AND RECOGNITION - Anne Schoeffler, Chair

The Awards Committee evaluated four teacher submissions for the Hurd Award. The applicants were exceptional. After deliberations, Rachel arbor was selected as the 2024 Hurd Award recipient.

Two Fall Classroom Teacher Awards were selected. Spring awards are in progress.

A new Awards Chair will need to be appointed for 2024-2025.
Website maintenance was ongoing. Peter Kelly did an outstanding job organizing and managing the Idea of the Month. e-Announcements were sent out as needed by Mary Lou Liscomb through the newsletter. Mary Lou also updated the webinar and conference announcements on the website.

A subcommittee to review the website for edits and additions is suggested for 2024-2025.

A new committee chair and webmaster will need to be appointed for 2024-2025.
The monthly webinar series continued during 2023-2024 under the branding Meet Me in the Middle Webinar Series. Adjustments were required for Meet Me in the Middle at NSTA Denver 24. NMLSTA was represented during various sessions. My SciLife sponsored the NMLSTA Meet and Greet at Denver 24.
Membership records were reviewed and lapsed members were moved to the archive file. On average during 2023-2024, the average number of active members was 230. Dues were raised to generate additional revenue to cover operating costs. When the subscription to Wild Apricot renewed in October, based on reduced membership, NMLSTA was able to change the service category to one with a lower management fee. The current membership category allows for a maximum of 500 members.

A new Membership Chair will need to be appointed for 2024-2025.
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Status:

- Continue to explore and expand collaboration.
- Continue to grow the Network in collaboration with NSTA.
- Continue to provide webinars and conference opportunities for NMLSTA members.
- Continue recognition of teachers through the Paul DeHart Hurd Award and Classroom Teacher Awards.
- Revisit governance documents as needed.
Areas of Concern

The two primary areas of concern for 2024-2025 are: membership and fundraising.

Membership has stagnated, with an average membership of 230 active members. New memberships are not keeping pace with lapsed memberships. Although dues were raised for 2023-2024, the revenue has not kept pace with operating expenses. This will again force transfer of funds from the reserve account to cover costs.

Membership and fundraising are suggested as priorities for 2024-2025.
Recognition of Service

The Officers and Board of Directors of NMLSTA recognize and thank the following officers and directors who are leaving the leadership team.

- Kathy Biernat
- Sharyon Holness
- Liz Martinez
- Elizabeth Weissman
Nominations for Appointment

In recognition of their past service and willingness to continue as members of the leadership team the following directors whose terms are expiring are nominated by the president to serve a three-year term as a Director.

- Michelle LaBorn
- Alison Seymour
A slate of officers and director candidates was posted on the NMLSTA website. Voting opened April 1, 2024 and closed April 14, 2024. The following candidates received a majority of votes cast.

- President Elect - Kristin Slota
- Secretary - Suzanne Cunningham
- Director - Allison (Allie) Bogart
- Director - Peter Kelly

It is suggested that recruitment of board members be a priority for 2024-2025.
Transfer of the Presidency

Thank you to all who donated their time and expertise to NMLSTA during the 2023-2024 year. As is the custom in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Middle Level Science Teachers Association, the presidency is at this time passed on to President Elect, Anne Schoeffler.