Creating and Sustaining a PK-16 Partnership: Developing a Science Agenda

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To Begin: Assess the Needs

• What science professional development is available in Nebraska?

• What additional learning opportunities do science teachers/leaders seek??
Lessons Learned

1. Preservice Elementary Teachers
   • Expectations about Science Teaching
2. Fifth Grade Students
   • Expectations about Scientist’s Work
   • Ideas about Usefulness of Science and Math
3. Early Career Science Teachers
   • Career Highs and Lows
1. Draw a Science Teacher
2a. Scientist at Work

1. Man
2. Inside
3. Trying to cure baldness
Brittney: I think you need to know about science... what types of chemicals [you’re] using and how to use them in the right way so there won’t be any problems.

Researcher: What kind of chemicals do you mean?

Brittany: The ones that give you highlights.

Researcher: How about math?

Brittany: Well, you need to know how much to put in their hair.
3a. Teaching Highs and Lows
3b. Teaching Highs and Lows
Essential Questions

• How do we define student success?
• What do science teachers need or want to know and understand?
• What would improve science teacher professional development?
• What systems would engage and enable statewide partnerships?
• How can we build the necessary infrastructure?
Developing a Science Agenda

Consider/Discuss Possibilities—Math
Science Summit (December, 2014)

Survey of Needs – Purposeful
Selection (January, 2015)

Teacher-Leader Discussions (April, 2015)

Fundable, Needs-Based Conceptions (May, 2015)