

# Featured Panel: Enhancing Teachers' Voices and Roles in Education Policy Making

Friday, March 31 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Los Angeles Convention Center, Theatre (411)

Classroom teachers are used to having educational "innovations" thrust upon them, but rarely are they given opportunities to bring their wisdom of practice to inform decision making about these changes, especially outside of their own classrooms or schools. However, given the current importance of STEM education, these kinds of opportunities may be possible. For example, a focus of reform is the *Next Generation Science Standards*, which set forth an ambitious model of three-dimensional learning and include a significant engineering component. Because the role of engineering in K–12 education is still unsettled, teachers of STEM may have unparalleled opportunities to have a voice in its development and implementation along with the education policies that will support such efforts. In this session, a panel of teacher leaders will discuss the challenges and rewards associated with being an effective leader outside the classroom, including at the district, state, and national levels. Staff from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine also will report on efforts at the Academies to bring attention to value of teacher involvement in STEM education leadership and policy.

Organized by **Greg Pearson**, Scholar, K–12 Engineering Education and Public Understanding and Engineering, National Academy of Engineering, Washington, D.C.

Moderated by: **Al Byers**, NSTA Associate Executive Director, Strategic Development & Research

Panelists:

- **Jay Labov**, Senior Advisor for Education and Communication, The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Washington, D.C.
- **Donna Migdol**, Elementary STEM Teacher, Oceanside (N.Y.) School District
- **Mary (Margo) Murphy**, Science Teacher, Camden Hills Regional High School, Rockport, Maine
- **K. Renae Pullen**, Science Teacher, Caddo Parish Public Schools, Shreveport, La.
- **Jose Rivas**, Physics and Engineering Teacher, Lennox Academy, Inglewood, Calif.
- **Bruce Wellman**, Engineering Teacher, Olathe Northwest High School, Olathe, Kans.

*Presenter(s): Jay Labov (The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine: Washington, DC), Donna Migdol (Oceanside School District: Oceanside, NY), Mary (Margo) Murphy (Camden Hills Regional High School: Rockport, ME), K. Renae Pullen (Caddo Parish Public Schools: Shreveport, LA), Jose Rivas (Lennox Academy: Inglewood, CA), Bruce Wellman (Olathe Northwest High School: Olathe, KS), Al Byers (NSTA: Arlington, VA)*

FORMAT: Featured Speaker

GRADE LEVEL: General

SUBJECT: General Science Education

## Presenter Materials for this Session



[National\\_Academies\\_Descriptive\\_Brochure.pdf](#)



[NATIONAL\\_ACADEMIES\\_REPORTS\\_AND\\_WEBSITES\\_\\_ON\\_PRE\\_K-12\\_THROUGH\\_UNDERGRADUATE\\_\\_STEM.pdf](#)



[NSTA\\_Leadership\\_Opportunities\\_vs2.pdf](#)



[Enhancing Teacher Voice](#)



[NSTA\\_L.A.\\_Featured\\_Panel\\_-\\_Presentation\\_Slides.pdf](#)  
PowerPoint slides used during session



[Bio\\_Sketches\\_Teacher\\_Leader\\_Panelists.pdf](#)

## How Can a STEM Teacher Become a Relevant and Sought-After Voice in Policy?

**Saturday, April 1 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

*JW Marriott Los Angeles at L.A. LIVE, Diamond Ballroom Salon 6*

A continuation of the featured panel "Enhancing Teachers' Voices and Roles in Education Policy Making," Friday, 2:00–3:00 PM, this session will give teachers tools and mechanisms to be adept in understanding how policy is made and how they can bring their knowledge and expertise to decision makers. Drawing on advice from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, and from the California Council on Science and Technology, this is a hands-on session with description and discussion on specifically how STEM teachers can be effective in policy making at the regional, state, and federal level.

Moderated by Susan Hackwood, Executive Director of the California Council on Science and Technology, and Andy Kotko, Chair of the California Teachers Advisory Council, and Folsom Cordova Academy for Advanced Learning in Sacramento

Presented by members of the California Teachers Advisory Council and the National Academies Teacher Advisory Council.

*Presenter(s): Kenneth Huff (Mill Middle School: Buffalo, NY), Mary (Margo) Murphy (Camden Hills Regional High School: Rockport, ME), K. Renae Pullen (Caddo Parish Public Schools: Shreveport, LA), Jay Labov (The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine: Washington, DC), Herb Brunkhorst (Professor Emeritus, CSU San Bernardino: San Bernardino, CA)*