

1983

## Editor's Corner - Crisis in Science Education: A Partial Solution?

Carl W. Bollwinkel

Richard L. Wilson  
*Iowa State University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj>



Part of the Science and Mathematics Education Commons

*Let us know how access to this document benefits you*

Copyright © Copyright 1983 by the Iowa Academy of Science

---

### Recommended Citation

Bollwinkel, Carl W. and Wilson, Richard L. (1983) "Editor's Corner - Crisis in Science Education: A Partial Solution?," *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*: Vol. 20: No. 3, Article 16.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj/vol20/iss3/16>

This Editorial is brought to you for free and open access by the IAS Journals & Newsletters at UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa Science Teachers Journal by an authorized editor of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@uni.edu](mailto:scholarworks@uni.edu).

**Offensive Materials Statement:** Materials located in UNI ScholarWorks come from a broad range of sources and time periods. Some of these materials may contain offensive stereotypes, ideas, visuals, or language.

## EDITORS CORNER

### Crisis In Science Education: A Partial Solution?

The crisis in science education and the article published in the Autumn 1983 issue of *ISTJ* has prompted one of our readers to share the following:

Dear Editor:

I've been reading with great interest of the shortage of science and math teachers in our public schools. I feel somewhat guilty for I am an ex-math/science teacher who left the profession. After teaching for six years, I looked ahead at the pay scale and decided my family deserved better. However, I do miss teaching and frequently wish I could have a classroom experience again.

This leads me to a suggestion I have to help alleviate the math-science teacher shortage. The first step would be to convince the school systems that they don't have to have school in session only between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. If they wanted to, they could schedule certain classes in the evenings or on Saturdays. This would open the door to step two, which is to recruit ex-teachers, like myself, who are interested in helping solve the problem but aren't available during the regular school hours.

Over the past several years, I've encountered several ex-teachers who left the profession for financial reasons, but who still have a desire to do some teaching. Why not exploit this natural reserve of qualified teachers to help our schools, at least temporarily, to solve the math-science teacher shortage?

Richard L. Wilson  
Regional Plant Introduction Station  
Iowa State University  
Ames, Iowa 50011

The concept of alleviating the shortage of qualified science teachers by scheduling some classes during evenings and Saturdays, at a time when part-time teachers would be available, should be a topic which initiates written comments from the teachers and administrators who are now reading this. Teacher compensation, administration and management, and acceptance by students, parents and current teaching staff are some factors which would seem to elicit varied reactions in different communities. What is your opinion?

— C.W.B.