An Open Letter from the Chairman of the Science Teaching Section of the Iowa Academy

Warren Classon
Dear Fellow Science Teacher,

When was the last time you took advantage of the opportunity to exchange ideas relative to science instruction and emerging and changing science programs with fellow teachers? If you are like yours truly, it probably has not been as recent as it should be, or you have not spent as much time doing so as you should.

Our Spring Meeting with the Iowa Academy of Science on April 19 and 20, 1968, at Wartburg College in its Science Teaching Section meetings can help to raise your professional level in respect to the question just asked. Science instruction and programs are really changing during the 60's. Are you fully aware of the implications of these changes for your own niche in science? How can you know what is going on in science if you do not take advantage of opportunities to exchange ideas and to listen to people who have learned through experience. If you are as busy as we all feel we are, you should not overlook the chance to get together in a professional way with your fellow science teachers—elementary through college. Our Spring Meeting, you know, provides a blending of science people from all levels of learning. This is good because all of us benefit from this kind of "mixing."

Will you be at the meetings on April 19 and 20? An old definition of being professional which I have heard is that "professional means to take indignities on the chin in a dignified way." Professional now means something quite different. In its current context, it is more frequently thought of as participation, learning, and willingness to change. Are you a participant, a learner, and one who changes as a professional science teacher should be, or are you unequal to the challenge of the 60's? I hope that you, as a science teacher in Iowa, will take advantage of the opportunity to grow professionally by coming to our Spring Meeting, and will prove that our state has professional teachers in science.

Warren Classon, Chairman
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Science Teaching Section