

# Science for All: Update #1

03/15/22

## Why Science for All?

Thank you for your interest in my ideas for engaging all students (not just those predisposed to study the sciences) to help them understand and have trust in science and scientists by the time they graduate from high school. If I have not yet spoken to you about my efforts, please contact me. I would love to hear your ideas.

In my experience, too many people leave high school having negative experiences from classes like Chemistry and Physics. Given that young children are natural explorers, it seems as if something is lost in the pathway to high school. In addition, too often those that like and do well in science are seen as a group apart from their peers.

Given the complexity of our technological society, and as evidenced by the growth of anti-vaxxers and climate change deniers, there is a need for all students to leave high school with a more positive view of the sciences and scientists. Our world needs people to trust in well-executed science endeavors to address the climate crisis and all its manifestations.

I plan to provide updates on these efforts at least quarterly. I am always welcome to contributed content. If you have additional ideas, or comments on any of the updates, please email me at [annmiller168@gmail.com](mailto:annmiller168@gmail.com)

**Mission: Change science education to encourage more understanding of and trust in science by all high school graduates**



## To form a non-profit

### *Still deciding and progress*

Whether I decide to form my own non-profit depends on how the different efforts play out. However, I am taking steps in that direction. I plan to use this space to update you on progress both in the decision-making, and in the steps toward creating that non-profit.

I found a website that provided a checklist for starting a non-profit: <https://donorbox.org/nonprofit-blog/nonprofit-organization-checklist/>

I have chosen a tentative name (Science for All). I still need to check that with the MD state website to make sure it is not already in use. I have a purpose: Change science education to encourage more understanding of and trust in science by all high school graduates.

# Current updates on efforts

This panel of the newsletter will contain updates on the various efforts I am making.

Here are my top current ideas:

- 1) Develop a clearing house that includes science educational content available on the web, as well as a continuously updated list of national, state, and local upcoming decisions related to science education: Status: I may have found a home for this within an existing non-profit and I am in the process of writing a proposal
- 2) Top Gun Academy: Develop a summer enrichment program that employs expert teachers to train other teachers while providing fun, hands-on enrichment to students struggling or less engaged with science. Status: I am looking for a potential venue, with a stretch goal of starting in summer 2023
- 3) Work with organizations such as Reading is Fundamental to encourage them to include age-appropriate science books in their offerings. Status: I have contacted RIF and need to re-engage.
- 4) Work with Society for Science to use their archived articles to engage high schoolers in science based on their non-science interests: Status: assessment of archives completed; Upcoming poll of science teachers to see if it will be useful to them.



## Other *pro bono* work

### *Highlighting charities*

In this section, I hope to highlight other pro bono work and charitable efforts. Due to world events, in this first update, I included organizations that are heavily involved in relieving the suffering in Ukraine and the Ukrainian refugees in surrounding countries. Please feel free to send me others you know of, and I can put the word out to the group.

World Central Kitchen: [wck.org](http://wck.org)

International Rescue Committee: [help.rescue.org](http://help.rescue.org)

International Committee of the Red Cross:  
[www.icrc.org](http://www.icrc.org)

Voices of Children Foundation (I have seen this one listed on several sites I consider legitimate):  
<https://voices.org.ua/en/>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees:  
[www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)

