

Science Is Elemental: Update #4

12/14/22

Progress and another idea

My headline last month was “Progress and another idea.” The more things change, the more they stay the same.

My partnerships with Chemists Without Borders and the local private school are going well. CWB is about to update its website and put out a newsletter. The website will mention the science education clearinghouses. We are close to finding teachers for the summer camps at the private school, and I am making good progress in the curriculum development. I also submitted a proposal to the summer camp my younger daughter went to for many years. The intent would be to conduct a fun, brief seminar on the science of light and color, as it is an arts camp.

Due to [NaNoWriMo](#), the books for kids about what scientists do has taken a back seat. However, [Camp Nano](#) (April and July) will be an ideal time to work on those projects.

My next new idea: I connected with an elementary school teacher, and we had a good discussion about her students’ upcoming science fair projects. This teacher has a science background, but many do not. I think it might be useful to provide pro bono consulting to elementary school teachers on science fairs and science projects. This would not be a replacement of their curriculum, but a chance for teachers to work through any questions with an actual scientist. More later!

I welcome more ideas from all, and of course, contributed content. If you have additional ideas, or comments, please email me at ann.miller@scienceiselemental.org These newsletters and the blog are at scienceiselemental.blog You can find the first guest blog post

Mission: Change science education to encourage more understanding of and trust in the scientific process by all high school graduates, through starting science education in the early grades



Current non-profit status

1023 Submitted!

Science is Elemental, Inc. has submitted its 1023 to the IRS to get 501(c)(3) status. We submitted at the end of September, and I hope to hear by April.

SIE has also had its first Board of Directors Meeting. My thanks to the board!

We also held a highly successful Advisory Board meeting. More on that on the second page.

I started the work of looking through grantor organizations and narrowing the list to ones most likely to be interested in SIE. Now we wait for the IRS.

Advisory Board Ideas

On November 9th, SIE held its first advisory board meeting. The wide-ranging discussion covered a lot of ground, and I discuss the highlights here.

Suggestions for further SIE activities:

- 1) Bring alumni scientists into school classrooms as guest speakers/demonstrators. Some of this has been done virtually during the pandemic.
- 2) Get students to act as demonstrators of cool science to younger students
- 3) Include community/citizen science in the SIE clearinghouses. An example of citizen science includes a long effort on monarch butterfly migration. Some organizations already promote this work, such as [communityscienceexchange.org](https://www.communityscienceexchange.org)

Ideas about what is important for SIE are: diversity, books, science is everywhere, professional development, teacher training, shared educational resources, and science communication.

A shout out to the SIE AB: Steven Bodley, Susan Davis, Debbie Ericksen, Ron Filadelfo, Dave Koster, Peter Mecca, Mary Mohney, Michael Randall, Terry Trevino, Alina Mihaela Vizireanu, Mark Williams



Humanitarian needs

Help for the holiday season

The winter holidays can be a tough time of year for those in need, especially for families with young children. The charities below all help people weather the season and bring a little light to their lives. If you can, please donate to one of these worthy causes.

Toys for Tots: Run by the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation <https://www.toysfortots.org> If you go to Google Maps and type in toys for tots drop off, you will see locations for toy drop off. You can also donate online.

Project Linus delivers handmade blankets to kids in need. You can donate your handmade blanket or money to support their operations.

<https://www.projectlinus.org>

The Trevor Project provides information and support to LGBTQ young people. Particularly for youth not accepted by their families, the holidays can be a difficult time. <https://www.thetrevorproject.org>

One Simple Wish allows you to designate your donation to a specific gift for a specific child.

<https://www.onesimplewish.org>

