



# 2022 Annual Report



**NCSE**  
National Center for  
Science Education

**40**  
YEARS



**In 2022**, we celebrated NCSE's [40th anniversary](#). We looked back on our efforts to defend and support accurate science education over the four decades and raised a toast to some of our greatest accomplishments.

Then we rolled up our sleeves and got back to work.

We were proud to launch a [#ClimateEdNow campaign](#) in advance of Earth Day that included essays from climate scientists like our board member Benjamin D. Santer, the meteorologist and Climate Central director Bernadette Woods Placky, and novelist Lydia Millet. Following closely on the heels of that campaign, we published 15 lesson sets, free for teachers, on climate change, evolution, and the nature of science. The lesson sets focus on helping students

resolve common misconceptions about these topics that students are likely to bring into the classroom. Developed with help from our teacher ambassadors and carefully classroom tested, the lessons represent NCSE's commitment to improving how these crucial concepts are taught in U.S. classrooms.

Also in 2022, we continued to see the impact of a “report card” we created two years earlier in collaboration with the Texas Freedom Network Education Fund in which we graded each state's treatment of climate change in its science standards. References to [“Making the Grade?”](#) appeared in stories from media outlets such as Texas Public Radio, *The New York Times*, and *The Washington Post*. Our research program also prepared a paper for publication in 2023, “What's effective and ineffective in preparing high school educators to teach evolution?” based on an earlier national survey NCSE conducted with Penn State University researchers.

And our longest-tenured program, Catalyzing Action, continued to monitor and mobilize against legislation and policy developments that threatened the accurate teaching of climate science and evolution.

Though we hope we work ourselves out of existence before another 40 years roll around, we intend to be here for as long as there continues to be the need to counter misinformation, disinformation, and bad actors when it comes to science education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ann Reid". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Ann Reid

*Executive Director*

## OUR MISSION

**NCSE promotes and defends accurate and effective science education, because everyone deserves to engage with the evidence.**

# NCSE at work in 2022

## Supporting Teachers

We give science teachers the tools they need to help students resolve common misconceptions about climate change, evolution, and the nature of science.



### NCSE's Lesson Sets

[NCSE.NGO](https://www.ncse.ngo)



NCSE staff worked with our teacher ambassadors to develop and launch 15 free-to-download lesson sets that help students resolve common misconceptions about climate change, evolution, and the nature of science.



### Helping Students Overcome Science Misinformation

[YOUTUBE](#)



We interviewed Tennessee science teacher Michael Lowry who field-tested some of our new lesson sets and discussed their “special sauce” in helping students overcome science misinformation.



### Darwin Day 2022: Squamate Speciation Symposium

[NCSE.NGO](https://www.ncse.ngo)



For Darwin Day, we reprised our evolution symposium, featuring Edward L. Stanley of the Florida Museum at the University of Florida, from the National Association of Biology Teachers annual conference.

*“Getting students to think about misinformation and disinformation...  
That to me is the ‘secret sauce’ of this curriculum.”*

—MICHAEL LOWRY, SCIENCE TEACHER

# Catalyzing Action

We help individuals and communities resist threats to accurate and effective science education.



## Texas fails to improve climate change education in social studies



NCSE.ORG

NCSE closely watched developments in Texas in which the state board of education declined to improve the state social studies standards by adding material about climate change.



## NCSE's Branch praises new Indiana climate change science standards



NCSE.ORG

NCSE Deputy Director Glenn Branch wrote in support of Indiana's new science standards and their treatment of climate change.



## "Controversial issues" legislation in New Jersey dies



NCSE.ORG

NCSE monitored the progress—or lack thereof—of legislation in New Jersey that would have made it easier to allow anti-evolution and climate change denial into the curriculum.

*"In adopting the new standards, Indiana took a huge step forward in preparing its students in its public schools to cope with the challenges of the warming world they will inherit."*

—GLENN BRANCH, NCSE DEPUTY DIRECTOR



# Investigating Science Education

Investigating Science Education conducts high-quality research to better understand science education.



## NCSE research on climate change education featured in *The New York Times*

[NCSE.ORG](https://www.ncse.ngo)

NCSE research reports continued to receive press attention in 2022: both “Making the Grade?” from 2020 and “Mixed Messages” from 2015, for instance, were referenced in *The New York Times*.

Citing the 2014-2015 NCSE/Penn State national survey of climate change education, the article observed, “Around half of middle school science teachers either don’t cover the subject or spend less than 2 hours a year on it,” which NCSE’s Deputy Director Glenn Branch characterized as inadequate.



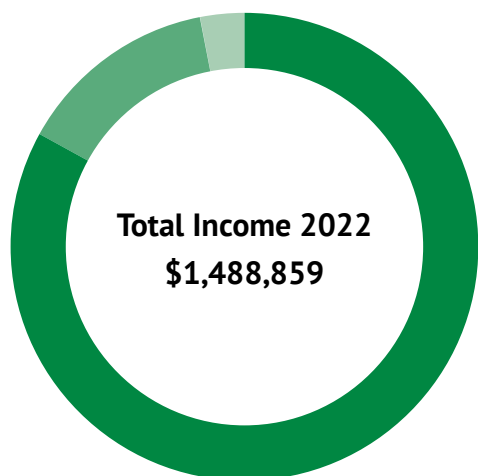
Source: *The New York Times*



*Around half of middle school science teachers either don’t cover climate change or spend less than two hours a year on it, according to a survey by the National Center for Science Education.*

## Financial Report

We are grateful for the ongoing support and dedication of the individual supporters and foundations who make our work possible.



- Individuals: \$1,233,445 (83%)
- Foundations: \$201,000 (14%)
- Earned income: \$54,414 (3%)



- Program: \$1,043,066 (66%)
- General and Administration: \$296,181 (19%)
- Fundraising: \$233,980 (15%)

## Board of Directors

### Officers

**Kenneth R. Miller**  
**President**  
*Brown University*

**Benjamin D. Santer**  
**Secretary**  
*Retired*

**Michael Haas**  
**Treasurer**  
*Orion Renewable Energy Group*

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*Minerva Schools at KGI*

**Maya Garcia**  
*Beyond 100K*

**Sarah B. George**  
*University of Utah*

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**Michael B. Lubic**  
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**Michael E. Mann**  
*Penn State University*

**Naomi Oreskes**  
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**Astrid Broertjes**  
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**Glenn Branch**  
*Deputy Director*

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*IT Project Specialist*

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*Director of Development*

**Paul Oh**  
*Director of Communications*

**Blake Touchet**  
*Teacher Support Partnership Specialist*

**DeeDee Wright**  
*Postdoctoral Researcher*



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