Dear STEM Teachers:

Teacher Appreciation Week is more than an anniversary on the calendar. It is an important opportunity to recognize the value of teachers to the welfare of our country and its national security. The transmission of knowledge is the most ancient of practices; teachers are an indispensable component in that transmission.

Beginning with summer teacher institutes in the mid-1950s through today’s contemporary research activities, the teacher remains a focal point of the National Science Foundation’s support for STEM learning and the environments in which it takes place.

Our research and development programs generate the insights and tools that support the training, skills, and resources that help teachers succeed in their practice. We are honored to foster support for these efforts through programs including the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program, Discovery Research PreK-12 (DRK-12), Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), and Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST).

Every day, as teachers enter the classroom, they are fulfilling their professional challenge: to ensure that every student receives not only a high-quality educational experience, but the means and the desires to one day make substantial contributions to their chosen professions, to their communities and, hopefully, to the nation at-large.

To all—a well-deserved Teacher Appreciation Week!

Sincerely,

Karen A. Marrongelle
Assistant Director
National Science Foundation