

## MacNeil to help with science standards

The National Science Teachers Association, the largest professional organization in the world promoting excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning, has chosen Janet MacNeil, K-8 science coordinator, Public Schools of Brookline to serve on an expert team that will identify and vet high-quality resources to help teachers

implement the Next Generation Science Standards.

MacNeil is one of 55 educators who were selected out of 650 applicants to be an NGSS@NSTA Curator and help build a library of top-rated resources for teachers that support the new standards. She will focus on resources related to Ecosystems.

In Brookline, MacNeil is responsible for planning, developing and supervising science curriculum, providing professional learning opportunities for teachers, and providing science supplies/teaching materials. She is currently working with a team of teachers to revise the entire K-8 science curriculum to incorporate the use of hands-on inquiry instruction, science practices, nature of science (who are scientists and what do they do), science notebooks, outdoor learning, and integration with other areas of the curriculum (such as science talk, science writing, and science reading to support Science as well as English Language Arts).

She is also developing online courses and is integrating the use of technology into science classrooms to support teachers and students. She has a bachelor's degree in Earth science and a master's degree in environmental pollution control from Penn State University. She has been a member of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Science/Engineering Curriculum Framework Review Panel since 2009, and is also part of the DESE Grade 5 Assessment Development

Committee for the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System.