



CHARLES A. DANA CENTER
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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**Commitment Statement in support of the National Academies of Sciences,
Engineering, and Medicine Collaborative on Advancing Science Teaching and
Learning in K-12**

January 10, 2025

On behalf of the Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin, I am pleased to confirm our commitment to actively participate in the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) Collaborative on Advancing Science Teaching and Learning in K-12 (CASTL-K12). This initiative aligns closely with our mission to support and improve the quality of education for each and every student, particularly in mathematics and science, with an emphasis on increasing educational success for underserved populations.

Our mission and initiatives are deeply aligned with the vision of science education as outlined in the *Framework for K-12 Science Education*. The Dana Center strives to ensure that all students have access to high-quality learning experiences that promote critical thinking, problem-solving, and engagement with the natural and designed worlds. By fostering systemic change and supporting educators through professional learning, curriculum resources, and policy advocacy, we aim to advance science education in ways that reflect the *Framework's* principles and practices.

The Dana Center is committed to coordinated action to achieve high-quality science education in line with the goals of CASTL-K12. Our efforts focus on collaboration, sharing expertise, and contributing to systemic strategies that enhance the teaching and learning of science in K-12.

CASTL-K12 will pursue four primary goals:

- Develop a coherent strategy for supporting implementation of science standards across states and districts.
- Launch and coordinate a networked community of practice for stakeholders at all levels and across sectors.
- Build on and share existing evidence-based policies, tools, and examples.
- Develop a coherent communication and engagement strategy for advancing K-12 science and engineering education broadly.

We are excited to work alongside esteemed partners and stakeholders within the NASEM Collaborative. Together, we can make significant strides in transforming science education for K-12 students, fostering curiosity, critical thinking, and a lifelong love of learning.

The Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin commits to supporting the goals of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Action Collaborative on Advancing Science Teaching and Learning in K-12.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Afi Wiggins".

Dr. Afi Y. Wiggins
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