



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO Box 500

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

MIKIE SHERRILL
Governor

DR. DALE G. CALDWELL
Lt. Governor

DR. LILY LAUX
Commissioner

July 30, 2026

Ms. Angela Best, Executive Co-Chair
New Jersey Science Convention
31 Kingwood Avenue,
Frenchtown, NJ 08825

Re: Approval of Overnight Travel Waiver for the NJSELA and NJSTA 2026 Conference

Dear Ms. Best:

The New Jersey Department of Education has reviewed your request submitted on behalf of the New Jersey Science Education Leadership Association (NJSELA) and New Jersey Science Teachers Association (NJSTA) seeking a waiver of the in-state overnight travel restriction to support the New Jersey Science Convention in Princeton, New Jersey, scheduled for October 20 – 21, 2026.

Under N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11 and the State Department of Treasury OMB Circular 16-11, reimbursement for in-state overnight travel is generally prohibited. However, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11(c), exceptions may be granted for events that are broad and multidisciplinary in scope, comprised of content-rich educational programming, and offer important professional development opportunities or required training. After carefully reviewing your submission, **it has been determined that the conference meets these criteria and is hereby approved.**

Waiver Approval Details:

- **Overnight lodging reimbursement** is approved for October 20, 2026 **only**.
- Reimbursement is limited to attendees whose **one-way commute exceeds 50 miles**.
- **Registration fees, mileage and meals** may be reimbursed per the OMB Circulars 20-04 and 16-11.
- Districts must ensure attendance is limited to staff whose roles align with the conference's purpose or continuing education requirements.

We appreciate NJSELA and NJSTA's commitment to advancing education and wish you a successful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lily Laux".

Dr. Lily Laux
Commissioner

LL/JH/mp

c: Senior Staff
Executive County Superintendent