



New York State Technology & Engineering Educators Association

www.NYSTEEA.org

July 3, 2014

Esteemed Members of the NYS Board of Regents:

During a recent NYS Board of Regents meeting comments were made implying that engineering is not taught in most technology education classrooms and that science teachers were better positioned to deliver engineering concepts in our State. These statements are of great concern to the NYSTEEA because engineering courses have been part of the technology education discipline for decades. On behalf of the technology and engineering teachers that we represent, I would like to state that NYS technology education teachers are best prepared and currently do teach engineering in technology education classrooms across the state. The following evidence supports the NYSTEEA's position.

Policy

The NYS Learning Standard for Technology Education is the only content learning standard that identifies engineering as a key idea. A document published by NYSED entitled "Engineering Related Courses or Programs in Grades 9-12" which states "Teachers of technology education and engineering-related courses must be certified in technology education. Other CTE or academic subject certification may not be substituted." <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cte/technology/engineer.html>

History

From a historical perspective, numerous technology and engineering courses have been consistently taught in technology education classrooms, which address and engage engineering principles, practices, and concepts. These engineering related courses (Design and Drawing for Production, Principles of Engineering, Product Design & Engineering, etc.) were written by practicing technology education teachers under the auspices of the NYS Education Department and can be found on the NYSED Web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cte/technology/pub/>

Teacher Preparation/Philosophy

New York State college technology teacher preparation programs require courses common to both engineering and technology education degrees. Furthermore, the primary pedagogical approach taught by technology education teachers is the engineering design process in contrast to the scientific inquiry approach taught by science teachers. Many technology education classrooms across NYS are implementing the Engineering by Design curriculum, which was developed by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association. <http://www.iteea.org/EbD/ebd.htm>

On behalf of the NYSTEEA, I will continue to communicate with you and provide additional support for our position; that technology education teachers are best prepared and currently do teach engineering in our classrooms. Also, I welcome an opportunity to make a presentation to the Board that will provide more in-depth coverage of our position and a better understanding of the technology education curriculum. Please feel free to contact me anytime with any questions or concerns at ajlatnystea@westelcom.com.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alta Jo Longware, President