



of student practices—at the time of initial assignment and before being assigned to a new exposure situation. This includes storage, use, and disposal of materials and chemicals; use of personal protective equipment; engineering controls; and proper administrative procedures. To ensure ongoing safety, annual training should be provided to keep teachers well informed about changes in safety procedures.

9. Support the decisions of teachers to modify or alter activities in a safe manner or select safe alternative activities to perform in the science classroom/laboratory.



10. Maintain adequately supplied, properly equipped, and safe facilities for performing lab instruction by conducting annual facilities audits.

In addition, the position paper lists other means of providing for a safer learning site relative initiatives on the part of the school administration and governing body.

### In The End!

Remember as a science teacher, you not only have the duty to instruct students to learn science, but also duty of care to make sure it is safer for students to do the science activities. Prepare for a safer experience and continuously monitor/adjust for safety to keep all out of harm's way and the court room!

### Internet Reference:

*Liability of Science Educators for Laboratory Safety; Position Paper*, National Science Teachers Association, Arlington, Virginia, United States of America: <http://www.nsta.org/about/positions/liability.aspx>

