

I'm Matt Kohn, I'm a Distinguished Professor at Boise State University. My older son graduated recently from Boise High and is now a freshman at Boise State. My younger son is a sophomore at Boise High.

I SUPPORT THE UPDATED STANDARDS

My area of teaching and research is in geology. I've been doing this for over 30 years. And I've been pretty successful. Just as one example the amount of federal research funds I've raised is approaching \$10M.

I've been living and breathing geology for most of my life. *I AM STEM*

I wanted to come to you as I would when I'm doing my research. I'm a field geologist. We don't wear fancy clothes. We like being outside. We like figuring how our world works so we can make better use of it.

And I came to you this way because I wanted to show that ~~people in~~ geology, ^{*STEM*} whether they're a university professor like me or a geologist in the mining industry, like so many of our grads, are just normal people. We work hard because we love what we do. ~~We're~~ down-to-Earth people. So to speak. Maybe we tell too many bad jokes.

But we take our jobs seriously
As a scientist and father of two kids in the public school system, I pay very close attention to what goes into state education standards for science. All I want to see are three things:

Scientific observations – are they accurate and repeatable?

Scientific interpretations – do they follow from the observations?

Implications – do we provide the foundation for our students to use this information to make our lives better?

It's the scientific method, and it's what we need