



The South Carolina Academy of Science

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SC Metric Week October 7 – 13, 2018, Governor's Proclamation

Dear District Leaders and/or Math & Science Coordinators:

[PLEASE SHARE]

Celebrating *Metric Week in South Carolina 2018 (October 7-13)* is a very important opportunity for K-12 students. An announcement at each school in your district and encouragement of metric system activities during and after Metric Week would be an excellent idea. (Some easy-to-use ideas on celebrating Metric Week are available online at: www.artsandsciences.sc.edu/cse (Click on Programs then Metric) or <http://scacademysci.org> (click on South Carolina Academy of Science | Founded 1924) then click on Metric, top of page. Also USMA Site www.us-metric.org is a good site for information.

As you know very well, companies (which will eventually employ many of our students) are gradually producing products to metric system standards. This means that the jobs of tomorrow will require employees to be able to use metric units.

The Metric System has become more prevalent in U.S. society, science, and everyday life. For example, when referring to global warming, the CO₂ emissions are measured in metric tons. Our U.S. military describes deployments in kilometers, and prominent sports such as track and field, cycling, and The Olympic Games are all measured in metric. In healthcare, blood pressure, cholesterol levels, glucose measurements, prescriptions, over the counter medicines and dietary supplement dosages are all metric. Additionally, package labeling (especially beverages) express the contents in metric. U.S. consumers are becoming more familiar with grams and milligrams through information provided on mandatory nutritional labeling.

The South Carolina Metric Proclamation is distributed to all public and private schools in South Carolina and is recommended and approved by the South Carolina Academy of Science (SCAS), coordinated with the Office of Metric Programs at the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST), part of the U.S Department of Commerce and the Center for Science Education at USC. Special thanks go to **Governor Henry McMaster** for his support of this worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

Don Jordan, USC

See website

www.artsandsciences.sc.edu/cse for documents on metric for grades k - 12