



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEWS RELEASE

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BOARD REITERATES SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1, NEW STANDARDS

(Frankfort, KY) -- Today the Kentucky Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution reiterating its support of Senate Bill 1 (2009), the Kentucky Core Academic Standards and a commitment to the goal of college/career-readiness for all Kentucky high school graduates.

“At a time when we are seeing other states back away, we feel it is important to reaffirm our commitment to Senate Bill 1 and Kentucky’s Core Academic Standards,” said board member Mary Gwen Wheeler.

The board commended lawmakers for the legislation, which called for new, rigorous and internationally benchmarked academic standards, and the hundreds of Kentucky teachers and education professionals who had a part in developing the standards through the state-led Common Core State Standards initiative. That effort, led by the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers, resulted in new standards in English/language arts and mathematics that align with the requirements of Senate Bill 1 and are focused on the skills students need for success in college and career.

In a joint meeting in 2010, the Council on Postsecondary Education, the Education Professional Standards Board and the Kentucky Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards without dissent as the Kentucky Core Academic Standards. For the past two years, Kentucky teachers have taught the new English/language arts and mathematics standards in Kentucky classrooms.

(more)

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“I am so proud of the board that adopted the standards as one of the first,” said board member Nawanna Privett. “We are moving forward and we want to continue moving forward.”

A full text of the resolution follows:

Resolution in Support of Senate Bill 1 (2009)
by the
Kentucky Board of Education

Whereas, The Kentucky Board of Education, pursuant to KRS 158.645, and charged with the responsibility to do so, has for many years established minimum standards for academic achievement that prepare students for college or a career; and

Whereas, During the 2009 legislative session, outstanding collaboration occurred between the General Assembly, Governor Steven L. Beshear, the Commissioner of Education, the Kentucky Board of Education, and other education partners resulting in the adoption of Senate Bill 1; and

Whereas, Senate Bill 1 requires the creation of new, rigorous, and internationally benchmarked academic standards using input from teachers, postsecondary faculty, and other education partners with consideration of nationally-developed standards where available; and

Whereas, Over three hundred and forty teachers and education professionals participated in discussions and negotiations to revise Kentucky’s academic standards; and

Whereas, Senate Bill 1 requires the Kentucky Board of Education to consider standards that have been adopted by national content advisory groups and professional education consortia; and

Whereas, After the passage of Senate Bill 1, the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers produced evidence-based Common Core State Standards that align with college and career expectations, consider international benchmarks, focus on the capacities needed for college and career success, clearly communicate expectations to teachers, parents, students, and citizens, and follow the mandates of Senate Bill 1; and

Whereas, The Kentucky Board of Education, the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Education Professionals Standards Board jointly adopted these Common Core Standards, known in Kentucky as the Kentucky Core Academic Standards, in February 2010, and in so doing continued decades of support to provide Kentucky’s students with critical knowledge and higher order thinking skills.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Kentucky Board of Education declares its continued support of Senate Bill 1 and the Kentucky Core Academic Standards and their vital role in ensuring that every student graduates college- and career-ready.

Done in the city of Frankfort, this 5th day of June, in the year Two Thousand and Thirteen.

David Karem, Chair
Kentucky Board of Education

Terry Holliday, Commissioner
Kentucky Department of Education

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