

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-02

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MINIMUM MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF STUDENTS IN K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF UTAH.

WHEREAS, the Utah State Board of Education has the legal obligation to establish minimum standards of competency for students enrolled in public schools in the state of Utah, and has done so for decades, and has consistently reviewed, revised, and adopted updated standards since that time, and

WHEREAS, the Utah Core Standards in mathematics and English/language arts were substandard and insufficient in academic rigor to prepare students for college readiness, and

WHEREAS, the governor of the state of Utah and the Utah superintendent of public instruction, as members of their respective associations and in collaboration with other states, participated in the development and recommendation of a common set of state standards for mathematics and English/language arts called the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), and

WHEREAS, the Utah State Board of Education engaged in public discussions, meetings, and information gathering activities regarding the Common Core State Standards throughout the state over a period of approximately 14 months and additionally, discussed the proposed standards regularly in publicly noticed and broadcasted Board meetings, and

WHEREAS, the Utah State Board of Education received significant input from the public regarding the quality of the proposed Common Core State Standards, and

WHEREAS, the individual members of the Utah State Board of Education studied the proposed Common Core State Standards according to their fiduciary duty of care, and in their capacities as duly elected representatives of the people, and

WHEREAS, the members Utah State Board of Education, acting in their constitutionally defined official capacities, voted unanimously on August 6, 2010 to adopt the Common Core State Standards as the Utah Core Standards for mathematics and English language arts; and

WHEREAS, the Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel has determined Utah's adoption of the Common Core State Standards is not a condition of the receipt of money accepted by the state through a federal program, and

therefore does not create an obligation or binding relationship between to the state and the federal government or any other entity, and

WHEREAS, the Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel has verified Utah's adoption of the Common Core State Standards does not require Utah or its school districts and charter schools to share data or report student information to the federal government or any other entity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN that the Utah State Board of Education supports rigorous, statewide educational standards in all academic areas, and, desiring all students to graduate from the public education system prepared for college or a career, the Board reaffirms its support of the Utah Core Standards in mathematics and English language arts as revised in August 2010.

BE IT AFFIRMED that the Utah State Board of Education has complete purview over and control of the Utah Core Standards; that the standards can be changed, augmented, or revised as appropriate for Utah students; and that local educational agencies will continue to control the textbooks, educational materials and instructional methods used by teachers to teach at or above the level of rigor required by the Utah Core Standards.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Utah State Board of Education calls upon the Governor of the State of Utah and the members of the Utah Senate and the Utah House of Representatives 1) to support the goal of career and college ready outcomes for Utah students, 2) to resist the demands calling to "remove Utah from the common core" based on erroneous information, and 3) to collaborate with the State Board of Education in supporting teachers, parents and students during the transition to these new Utah Core Standards.

PASSED and APPROVED this 2nd day of May, 2013

Utah State Board of Education

Debra Roberts, Chair

ATTEST:

Lorraine Austin
Board Secretary

DRAFT