



KENTUCKY COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS

...providing support and professional development for teachers
of mathematics students from kindergarten and beyond.

March 14, 2016

Dear Members of the Kentucky Legislature,

The Kentucky Council of Teachers of Mathematics (KCTM) is the largest professional organization of math educators in the state. Our organization includes hundreds of teachers, professors, math curriculum specialists, and administrators from Kentucky's school districts, colleges, and universities. This resolution represents the opinion and recommendation of the KCTM Governing Board and other board representatives.

Resolution in Support of Kentucky Academic Standards

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 and/ 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 required 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, More than three hundred forty teachers and education professionals participated in discussions and negotiations to revise Kentucky's academic standards; and

Whereas, Senate Bill 1 (2009) required the Kentucky Board of Education to consider standards that have been adopted by national content advisory groups and professional education consortia; and

Whereas, 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, considered international benchmarks, focus on the capacities needed for college and career success, clearly communicated expectations to teachers, parents, students, and citizens, and followed 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 the Common Core Standards, known in Kentucky as the Kentucky Core Academic Standards (Kentucky 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; and

Whereas, math teachers across the state have spent considerable time and effort designing curriculum and evaluating instructional materials to ensure alignment to these standards; and

Whereas, math teachers across the state have actively participated in professional learning related to the standards and increased their mathematical knowledge for teaching curriculum aligned to these standards; and

Whereas, these standards provide our students with opportunities to increase their ability to conceptualize mathematics and to reason mathematically; and

Whereas, these standards continue to offer Kentucky teachers opportunities to collaborate with teachers from other states in creating high quality instructional materials and professional learning opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Kentucky Council of Teachers of Mathematics Governing Board and other board representatives declares its continued support of the Kentucky Academic Standards and their vital role in ensuring that every student graduates college-and career-ready.

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