

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION
REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF ACADEMIC STANDARDS

WHEREAS, the Indiana State Board of Education (“Board”) has a statutory responsibility to adopt academic standards (IC 20-31-3-1) and, pursuant to PL 286-2013/HEA 1427, must adopt college and career readiness educational standards that meet national and international benchmarks for college and career readiness standards and be aligned with postsecondary educational expectations before July 1, 2014;

WHEREAS, pursuant to PL 286-2013/HEA 1427, the Board has received and considered:

1. The final report of the legislative study committee established to study issues relating to common core standards or other standards and;
2. The fiscal impact statement impact statement prepared by the office of management and budget concerning the fiscal impact to the state and school corporations if the state board:
 - A. fully implements the common core standards;
 - B. discontinues the implementation of the common core standards; and
 - C. adopts other college-and-career ready standards that are not common core standards.
3. The Department of Education’s evaluation of the common core standards; and

WHEREAS, the Board is required to hold at least three (3) public hearings and take public testimony regarding the adoption of educational standards;

WHEREAS, academic standards adopted by the Board should reflect Hoosier values and preserve education as a function of state and local government;

WHEREAS, the academic standards review process should be open and transparent and should include ample opportunities for public input;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the conclusion from the Office of Management and Budget’s Fiscal Impact report prepared by September 1, 2013, that there could be a negative fiscal impact if standards adoption is delayed until July 1;

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to provide clarity to Indiana schools and educators prior to July 1, 2014, so that there is ample time for schools to prepare for any curricular or instructional changes, as well as any necessary textbook adoption and professional development activities, in advance of the 2014-2015 academic year;

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to ensure clear policy guidance and direction is provided to the Department regarding the Board’s selection of state assessments that align with college-and-career ready standards adopted by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to collaborate and coordinate with the Department, Education Roundtable, and the Commission for Higher Education, as well as other education and workforce partners as necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board shall conduct three (3) public hearings and take public testimony regarding the adoption of educational standards starting in February 2014 and concluding no later than March 31, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, to inform its standard evaluation process the Board may seek input from:

1. Elementary and secondary education subject area teachers, and
2. Subject area instructors and experts from postsecondary educational institutions, and
3. Independent, third-party academic standards experts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board authorizes Board staff to coordinate the Board's responsibilities and activities with respect to the standards evaluation process as set forth in PL 286-2013/HEA 1427 in consultation with staff at the Education Roundtable, Department, and Commission for Higher Education, including but not limited to:

1. Organizing the required public hearings;
2. Seeking input from K-12 and postsecondary education subject area teachers; and
3. Contracting with independent, third-party academic standards experts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board may expend funds appropriated to the Board by the Indiana General Assembly to complete the requirements of PL 286-2013/HEA 1427; and

ADOPTED ON: December 20, 2013.