

Testimony  
Submitted to the Education Committee  
March 12, 2014

Good afternoon Senator Stillman, Representative Fleischmann, Representative McCrory, Senator Bye, and members of the Education Committee. My name is Alan Addley and I am the Superintendent of the Granby Public Schools. I also serve as the President of the Hartford Area Superintendents' Association (HASA). I wish to express HASA's support for the Common Core State Standards.

Simply put, HASA believes that the Common Core State Standards are research-based standards that are good for schools and will make a positive difference for Connecticut's students. These rigorous standards are aligned to college readiness and provide a blueprint for a guaranteed K-12 curriculum in all Connecticut schools. There is no silver bullet in education, but a guaranteed curriculum aligned to college readiness is a strong foundation and it is a fundamental necessity for our schools.

At a time of unprecedented educational reform in Connecticut, it is rare to have such unified support for any one aspect of change. The thirty-seven superintendents of the Hartford Area Superintendents' Association express its unequivocal unified support for the continued implementation of these standards.

Additionally, any attempt to delay or derail the implementation of the standards will cause confusion to schools, send mixed messages to our communities and undermine the curriculum planning that has been thoughtfully taking pace in the districts during the past five years. The work is way too far along to delay now. The implementation of Common Core State Standards has been negatively impacted by the simultaneous adoption and implementation of other initiatives. Delaying the implementation of the standards will only add to the perception of another good idea being poorly implemented.

If the state is serious about improving the educational performance of its students and eliminating achievement gaps, then it should stay the course with the implementation plan of the Common Core State Standards.

Thank you for your consideration and for your work on behalf of the children of our state.