

Resolution on Common Core State Standards and Assessments

WHEREAS, [The Common Core State Standards Initiative](#) (“Common Core”), also known as [“Utah’s Core,”](#)¹ is not a Utah state standards initiative, but rather [a set of inferior nationally-based standards](#) and [tests developed through a collaboration](#) between two NGO’s (non-governmental organizations) and [unelected boards](#) and consortia from outside the state of Utah;² and,

WHEREAS, Common Core was [financed with private foundation funds](#),³ replacing the influence of our votes with [wealth](#) and influence to [bypass our state legislature](#) and impose [control over Utah’s education standards and tests](#);⁴ and,

WHEREAS, Common Core binds us to an established [copyright over standards](#), from which we cannot subtract, replace or add to - beyond an additional 15%;⁵ and,

WHEREAS, the [General Educational Provisions Act](#)⁶ prohibits federal authority over curriculum and testing, yet the U.S. Department of Education’s [“Cooperative Agreements”](#)⁷ confirm⁸ Common Core’s [test-building](#)⁹ and [data collection](#)¹⁰ is [federally managed](#);¹¹ and,

WHEREAS, [“student behavior indicators”](#)¹² - which include testing¹³ for [mental health, social and cultural \(i.e. religious\) habits and attitudes](#)¹⁴ and family status - [are now being used](#) for [Common Core tests and assessments](#); and,

WHEREAS, Common Core violates [Utah](#)¹⁵ state and [federal privacy laws](#)¹⁶ by requiring the [storage and sharing](#)¹⁷ of private¹⁸ student¹⁹ and family data [without consent](#);²⁰ using a pre- school through post-graduate (P-20) tracking system and a federally-funded [State Longitudinal Database](#) (SLDS), creating surveillance capability²¹ [between states](#)²² and [federal agencies](#),²³ in accordance with [funding mandates](#);²⁴ and,

WHEREAS, Common Core violates [constitutional](#)²⁵ and statutory prohibitions by pressuring states to adopt the standards with [financial incentives](#) tied to President Obama’s *Race to the Top*, and if not adopted, [penalties](#)²⁶ including²⁷ loss of funds; and,

WHEREAS, the federal²⁸ government [is imposing](#) yet another [unfunded mandate](#) on our State²⁹ for [unproven](#)³⁰ Common Core instruction³¹, training and testing platforms, [without any pledge of financial support](#) from federal, state or local governments; and,

WHEREAS, [unproven experiments](#)³² on our children, lacking empirical data³³ to support them, are [removing traditional math, replacing classic literature](#)³⁴ [with increased technical reading](#)³⁵, and [prohibiting teachers from reviewing](#) the tests to know what they ought to be teaching; and,

WHEREAS, this top-down process and the [principles behind Common Core](#)³⁶ undermine the teacher’s role³⁷ and do not support American and Republican ideals of local control,³⁸ parental choice³⁹ in education, standards and testing; and,

WHEREAS, the Republican National Committee recently passed a resolution opposing Common Core State Standards;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we call on the Governor⁴⁰ and the Utah State School Board to withdraw from, and we ask the Utah State Legislature to [discontinue funding programs](#)⁴¹ in association with, The Common Core State Standards Initiative/Utah’s Core and [any other alliance](#)⁴² that promotes and tests for un-American⁴³ and [inferior](#),⁴⁴ [curricula](#),⁴⁵ [standards](#)⁴⁶ and [assessments](#); and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be delivered to the Governor and the State legislature for executive and legislative action.

Submitted by State Delegate Cherilyn Eagar, Salt Lake County
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State Delegate Endorsers: **Wasatch** - Alisa Ellis, Norman Durtschi, Anissa Wardell; Juab – Stella Lightfoot; **Washington** – Mary Burkett; **Weber** – Christie Moore, Dan Deuel, Bea Cardwell, Clark Roberts, Laura Warburton; **Iron** – Blake Cozzens **Davis** – Rod Arquette, Stephanie Terry, Kris Kimball, Phill Wright, Mark Cook; **Salt Lake** – JaKell Sullivan, Jennifer Jensen, Maryann Christensen,

Lauren Simper, Larry Jensen, Lisa Cummins; **Utah** – Gayle Ruzicka, Kristen Chevrier; Rod Mann, Larry Cerenzie, Clark Parker, Nancy Jex, Marie Nuccitelli

Legislative – School Board Endorsers: Congressman Jason Chaffetz; **State Representatives** Jake Anderegg, Brian Greene, Keith Grover, Mike Kennedy, David Lifferth, Curt Oda, Marc Roberts; **State Senators** Margaret Dayton, Mark Madsen, Stuart Reid; **School Board Members** Joyce Sudweeks, (Piute), Peter Cannon (Davis), Brian Halladay (Alpine)

¹ <http://www.corestandards.org/terms-of-use>

² <http://senatedist23.wordpress.com/2012/07/18/common-core-memo-from-judge-norman-h-jackson/>

³ <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases/2010/06/National-Governors-Association-and-State-Education-Chiefs-Launch-Common-State-Academic-Standards>

⁴ <http://www.schools.utah.gov/arra/Uses/Utah-Race-to-the-Top-Application.aspx>

⁵ A State may supplement the common standards with additional standards, provided that the **additional standards do not exceed 15 percent of the State's total standards for that content area** - <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/executive-summary.pdf>

⁶ "No provision of any applicable program shall be construed to authorize any department, agency, officer, or employee of the United States to **exercise any direction, supervision, or control over the curriculum, program of instruction, administration, or personnel of any educational institution, school, or school system, or over the selection of library resources, textbooks, or other printed or published instructional materials** by any educational institution or school system..." - General Educational Provisions Act

⁷ <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-assessment/sbac-cooperative-agreement.pdf>

⁸ <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-assessment/performance.html>

⁹ <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-assessment/performance.html>

¹⁰ <http://nces.ed.gov/forum/datamodel/information/aboutThe.aspx>

¹¹ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/23/remarks-president-no-child-left-behind-flexibility>

¹² <http://le.utah.gov/~2012/bills/hbillenr/hb0015.htm>

¹³ <http://www.utahnsagainstcommoncore.com/dr-thompsons-letter-to-superintendent-menlove/>

¹⁴ http://www.air.org/about/?fa=viewContent&content_id=96

¹⁵ http://le.utah.gov/code/TITLE53A/htm/53A13_030100.htm

¹⁶ <http://epic.org/apa/ferpa/EPIC-ED-FERPA-MSJ.pdf>

¹⁷ <http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/edfacts/index.html>

¹⁸ <http://www.dataqualitycampaign.org/stateanalysis/states/UT/>

¹⁹ <http://nces.ed.gov/programs/slds/state.asp?stateabbr=UT>

²⁰ <http://whatiscommoncore.wordpress.com/2012/07/28/usoe-the-answer-is-no-can-a-student-attend-public-school-without-being-p-20slds-tracked/>

²¹ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/01/19/unlocking-power-education-data-all-americans>

²² <http://siec.utah.gov/>

²³ http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/inside-school-research/2012/07/ed_urges_states_to_make_data_s.html

²⁴ <http://www.ed.gov/recovery>

²⁵ http://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/tenth_amendment

²⁶ http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/blueprint/publication_pg4.html

²⁷ <http://dianeravitch.net/2012/12/27/teacher-common-core-harms-my-title-i-students/>

²⁸ <http://www.ed.gov/news/speeches/vision-education-reform-united-states-secretary-arne-duncans-remarks-united-nations-ed>

²⁹ <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/eseaflex/ut.pdf>

³⁰ http://www.aasa.org/uploadedfiles/publications/newsletters/jsp_winter2011.final.pdf

³¹ <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2011/04/27/30pearson.h30.html>

³² <http://www.uaedreform.org/wp-content/uploads/2000/01/Stotsky-Invited-Testimony-for-Kansas-on-Common-Core.pdf>

³³ http://greatlakescenter.org/docs/Policy_Briefs/Research-Based-Options/02-Mathis_CommonCore.pdf

³⁴ http://heinemann.com/shared/onlineresources%5CE02123%5CNewkirk_Speaking_Back_to_the_Common_Core.pdf

³⁵ <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RI/11-12>

³⁶ <http://www2.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/eec/equity-excellence-commission-report.pdf>

³⁷ <http://zhaolearning.com/2013/01/17/more-questions-about-the-common-core-response-to-marc-tucker/>

³⁸ http://www.k12innovation.com/Manifesto/_V2_Home.html

³⁹ <http://aclj.org/education/parental-rights-in-education>

⁴⁰ http://www.utah.gov/governor/news_media/article.html?article=7433

⁴¹ <http://www.prosperity2020.com/2011/07/27/a-focus-on-the-basics/>

⁴² <http://www.utahdataalliance.org/>

⁴³ <http://house.michigan.gov/sessiondocs/2013-2014/testimony/Committee223-3-20-2013-6.pdf>

⁴⁴ http://www.city-journal.org/2012/22_3_massachusetts-education.html

⁴⁵ <http://hoosiersagainstcommoncore.com/james-milgram-testimony-to-the-indiana-senate-committee/>

⁴⁶ <http://www.uaedreform.org/wp-content/uploads/2000/01/Arkansas-Testimony-2013.pdf>