

BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Colorado Constitution states in Article 9, Section 15: Said directors (school district) shall have control of instruction in the public school of their respective districts, and

WHEREAS, Colorado is a local control state, where local school boards, particularly and specifically those governing charter schools are constitutionally granted broad discretion in setting curriculum and standards for their students; and,

WHEREAS, Article 32.5 is: Innovation Schools Act states in the Legislative Declaration its purpose is: To encourage innovation in education by providing local school communities and principals with greater control over levels of staffing, personnel selection and evaluation, scheduling, and educational programming with the goal of achieving improved student achievement; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Declaration continues to state: To hold public schools that receive greater autonomy under this article accountable for student academic achievement, as measured by the Colorado student assessment program, other more specifically tailored accountability measures, and the federal requirements of adequate yearly progress; and,

WHEREAS, Loveland Classical Schools has successfully pursued the most rigorous academic standards in a program that encourages students to recognize and value scholarship and character through a sound curriculum based on the great ideas and values of Core Knowledge and Classical education; and,

WHEREAS, the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), while potentially reasonable and appropriate for many schools to emulate, are not reasonable or appropriate at Loveland Classical Schools because our standards are more rigorous, more thorough, and directly tailored to the unique needs of our students, as they prepare to become active and responsible members of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the Loveland Classical Schools Board of Directors believe the new proposed Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment for the CCSS will not adequately evaluate our students' performance, and we desire a more specifically tailored accountability measure; and,

WHEREAS, the CCSS inhibit innovation, run contrary to our mission and vision, eviscerate content, weaken rigor, and require assessments and data processes that compromise student privacy while incurring unnecessary financial burdens; and,

WHEREAS, Loveland Classical Schools leadership has reviewed the CCSS, and determined that they do not meet the expectations our schools have for all of our

students,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Loveland Classical Schools Board of Directors hereby expresses:

Section 1: That the Colorado State Standards of 1993 are more rigorous than the Common Core State Standards Initiative and believes their imposition on the schools in Colorado will lower academic standards, and

Section 2: The new PARCC assessments do not incorporate the standard of excellence that will adequately evaluate students to the higher Colorado State Standards of 1993, and

Section 3: Loveland Classical Schools would prefer to use an alternative state approved assessment over a national assessment for their students based on the 1993, state standards that will assess for higher academic achievement of students, and

Section 4: Loveland Classical Schools Board of Directors call upon the Governor of the State of Colorado, the State Board of Education, the Colorado General Assembly, and the Colorado Department of Education to allow charter schools the option to readopt the State Standards of 1993, and

Section 5: the State Board of Education should reconsider their actions on December 10, 2012 in which they voted to pass the Common Core State Standards Initiative. The passing of these standards prior to their completion and the potential negative impact upon our local schools and districts warrants an extended study into the implications the Colorado Common Core Standards and the PARCC assessment on the academic achievement of students in the state of Colorado.

Approved this 20th day of November, 2014

Mary Peery, Board President

Jennifer Thayer, Board Secretary