

The Ohio Board of Regents and the State Board of Education
Joint Resolution

Agenda Item #3.11: Resolution in support of the Governor's education reform plan: The Ohio Core

WHEREAS, the Ohio Board of Regents and the State Board of Education applaud Governor Taft for the curricular reform described in the Ohio Core that requires all high school students to have the academic foundation needed for success in college or the workforce; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Board of Regents and the State Board of Education have long advocated for improved student preparation and aligned college readiness expectations to create a stronger pipeline into postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, academic success in college is directly related to the rigor of high school courses taken and is well documented in the Ohio Board of Regents' High School Transition Report and Performance Report and the High Quality High Schools report by the Quality High Schools for Lifetime of Opportunities Task Force; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the recommended Ohio Core, the High School Transition Report and Performance Report and the High Quality High Schools report by the Quality High Schools for Lifetime of Opportunities Task Force further describe a rigorous high school curriculum as minimally including four years of English and mathematics (including Algebra II), three years of social studies, three years of science courses (including biology, chemistry and physics), and two years of a foreign language; and

WHEREAS, the state of Ohio, in collaboration with the Ohio Board of Regents, the State Board of Education and the Ohio Department of Education, is a partner in a national project to ensure college and work readiness, the American Diploma Project, and is currently initiating policy changes to clearly define college expectations and provide early assessment mechanisms for students, teachers, and families; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's leadership on both the American Diploma Project and the Ohio Core can set the stage for future generations of Ohioans to leap forward in their educational attainment; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Board of Regents and the State Board of Education are encouraged that our strong history of collaborating with the higher education and K-12 communities will create further opportunities to:

- prepare teachers for providing learning experiences that support the Ohio Core and encourage the higher achievement levels;

- prepare more teachers in areas of the greatest need and for all school settings;
- support and strengthen teacher preparation programs to ensure that all teachers can meet the learning needs of students; and
- create multiple pathways for students to successful careers.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Core will assist Ohioans in becoming more competitive in the global economy and will help Ohio's standing in the world economy.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The Ohio Board of Regents, in collaboration with the State Board of Education, commends Governor Taft for his foresight in developing the Ohio Core proposal and commits to working with the Governor, his staff, the higher education community, the K-12 community and members of the General Assembly to develop the implementation details.