

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11**

**RESOLUTION 2015-31  
REGARDING STATE MANDATED TESTING**

**WHEREAS**, Colorado is a local control state, where local school boards are constitutionally granted broad discretion in setting curriculum and standards for their students; and

**WHEREAS**, local control is a fundamental tenet of education in Colorado and is a critical factor in establishing and operating quality educational programs in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorado Springs School District 11 has used that broad local control to pursue world-class education innovations and the most rigorous academic standards, in order to prepare our students for the 21st Century workplace and global economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Colorado has enacted legislation which mandates that students be tested in a particular manner using only those instruments approved by the State; and

**WHEREAS**, tests mandated by the State for use in 2015 are the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers ("PARCC") and Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS); and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of administering both local and statewide assessments takes an inordinate amount of time away from instructional time, focusing on high-stakes standardized tests; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorado Springs School District 11 is committed to accountability in measuring the outcomes it produces in terms of student success, so long as those measurements meaningfully assess the skills, knowledge, and attributes that students in the 21st Century need to be prepared for college, or the vocation of their choice, and to be responsible and informed citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, teachers and principals create a balance of appropriate progress monitoring and benchmarking to assist children with the acquisition of knowledge and stronger achievement needs to exist; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorado Springs School District 11 is not focused on the test score, but rather the day-to-day interaction and engagement of students acquiring new knowledge and skills. The moment when students cross the stage, we are sealing the deal of our commitment to learning and achieving from prekindergarten through 12th grade. Our purpose is to increase the value of that handshake, and we are accountable for such; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education, district superintendent, and administrative and teaching staff are accountable to our community; then


**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education respectfully requests that the Colorado State Board of Education allow Colorado Springs School District 11 to:

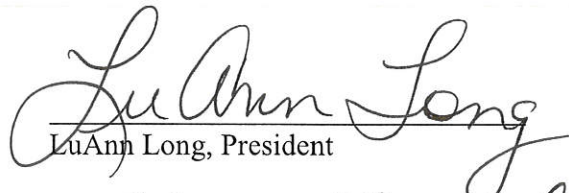
1. Modify the current administration of Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) adhering to the intent of the federal requirements only. Accordingly, Colorado Springs School District 11 would test:
  - Third through eighth grade, and tenth grade students with the PARCC English Language Arts assessment
  - Third through eighth grade, and tenth grade students with the PARCC Mathematics assessment

- For all of the above, participate *only* in the Performance Based Assessment Window (PBA) and not the End of Year (EOY) test window
  - Fifth, eighth and twelfth grade students on the CMAS Science assessment
  - Not administer the fourth, seventh and future twelfth grade CMAS Social Studies assessment
  - For those students who qualify, provide the alternative assessments for the above mentioned tests, as is appropriate
2. In addition, and in order to continue alignment with College and Career Readiness expectations, Colorado Springs School District 11 will continue to provide the Colorado ACT test (and its companion alternative assessment) to eleventh grade students.
  3. Allow parents the choice to opt out of testing, without Colorado Springs School District 11 being penalized for that local decision.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education also expresses its desire to partner with the State Board of Education as it considers future modifications to the state required testing and accountability systems.


**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the official seal of said school district to be hereunto affixed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 2015

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dr. Nicholas M. Gledich  
 Superintendent of Schools


  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 LuAnn Long, President

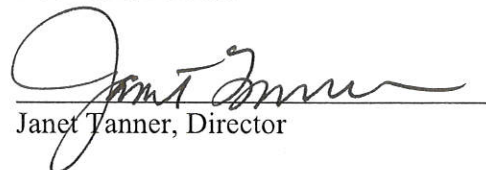
  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Elaine Naleski, Vice President

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jim Mason, Secretary


  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nora Brown, Treasurer

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Linda Mojer, Director

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bob Null, Director

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Janet Tanner, Director



  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Julie Rene Stevens  
 Secretary to the Board of Education