

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

Date Introduced: January 16, 2014

WHEREAS, The Barrington Public Schools' Strategic Plan compels the Barrington School Committee to continue its focus on high expectations, to develop exceptional students, and to empower all students to excel; and

WHEREAS, The Barrington community has endorsed the Barrington Public Schools' pursuit of a world-class education for its students; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island's state standards shape expectations for what Barrington's children should know and be able to do during the time they spend as students in the public schools; and

WHEREAS, Over the past decade, a series of national reports have detailed significant shortcomings in the Rhode Island content standards; and

WHEREAS, Numerous national studies, including the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP)/the Nation's Report Card, confirm that Rhode Island's students struggle in their pursuit of academic excellence. International assessments also underscore the fact that Rhode Island's students, including those students at the upper end of the performance spectrum, do not reach the same heights as their counterparts in other states and nations; and

WHEREAS, The Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governors Association facilitated a state-led initiative to develop the Common Core State Standards with the active engagement of teachers, education leaders, and standards experts; and

WHEREAS, The Common Core State Standards reference international benchmarks of top-performing nations, incorporate the best of previous state standards in the United States, and are aligned with college and career expectations; and

WHEREAS, The Common Core State Standards define a clear set of expectations for the knowledge and skills that will help students succeed in college and challenging careers; and

WHEREAS, The Common Core State Standards were adopted by Rhode Island in 2010; and

WHEREAS, For the past three years, Barrington Public Schools' teachers and education leaders have used research-based national and international resources to develop curricula and hone instructional practices in support of the transition to the Common Core State Standards; and

WHEREAS, It is the firm belief of the Barrington School Committee that it should do all in its power to ensure that a world-class education is a reality for our students; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Barrington School Committee hereby unequivocally and without reservation voices its support for the Common Core State Standards and for the adoption and continued implementation of these standards in the Barrington Public Schools.

Kate D. Brody, Chair
Barrington School Committee