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Dear Members of the State Board of Education,

This letter is in support of the newly created and Governor mandated Oklahoma Academic Standards for the English Language Arts and Mathematics academic content areas. House Bill 3399 directed the State Department of Education to develop Standards "by Oklahomans for Oklahomans." The resulting Standards demonstrate academic rigor and a clear pathway to student learning competencies needed for 21<sup>st</sup> Century college and career ready students.

The Standards align with appropriate hierarchical developmental and student learner critical thinking skills. Each of the content areas clearly describe an overview of both scope and sequence of student achievement expectations. The Standards provide an excellent template of very specific and clear student learner outcomes.

As the superintendent of Bethany Public Schools and acting member on the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability, I give my full support for the final version of English Language Arts and Mathematics Standards.

Sincerely,

Kent Shellenberger, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

*Providing Opportunities for Excellence*