



The El Reno Public Schools

Offices of the
Board of Education

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January 21, 2016

Oklahoma State Board of Education
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Superintendent Hofmeister and Members of the Oklahoma State School Board ,

On behalf of El Reno Public Schools, we am writing to you to give our support for the newly created Oklahoma Academic Standards for Mathematics. Our district finds the standards represent a sustainable approach for increasing mathematical proficiency, improving student achievement, and advancing the preparation of academic and career opportunities.

The strength of the standards is identified through the purposeful alignment within and across grade levels. Students will gain greater mathematical aptitude due to the increased emphasis placed on both content and process, which will improve the development and retention of skills. The standards also provide the best opportunity in successfully preparing Oklahoma students in achieving the requirements for college and career readiness. The alignment to NAEP and ACT ensures a more rigorous structure within the standards, which will help students reach basic proficiency levels with higher achievement rates. The increased attainment results will further promote Oklahoma as a highly competitive and academically comprehensive state on a national level. It is important to note that while the standards have been improved to address the skills identified by national comparison assessments, it is evident that careful consideration has been given to ensure the requirements are grade level appropriate. The vertical alignment, purposeful progressions, and depth of objectives per standard are what set the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for Math apart from Common Core State Standards. A deeper focus on fewer standards, along with grade-level specific targets to affirm achievement gains, are what makes these standards the best for Oklahoma students.

We are confident that the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for Mathematics will significantly improve student achievement and productively provide a strong foundation as students continue their educational and career endeavors.

Sincerely,

Craig McVay
Superintendent, El Reno Public Schools

Julie Owens
Mathematics Curriculum Director, El Reno Public Schools