

A Resolution of the Olmsted Falls City School District's Board of Education
Regarding a Common Sense Implementation of the Common Core State Standards with
Consideration of the District's Strategic Plan

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Olmsted Falls City School District, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, met in Regular session on March 19, 2015, and adopted the following Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the goal of education is more than simply "learning" or "graduating," and it should include "becoming"—becoming a good and capable person who can effectively think, reason, act, relate and accomplish in whatever field he or she enjoys and has a passion for; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of education in the Olmsted Falls City School District is to provide educational experiences that empower its future graduates to become life-long learners with an identified career path to succeed as a citizen in a global society; and

WHEREAS, student readiness for meaningful opportunities beyond high school in the work force or through postsecondary options requires high expectations for their learning and success, access to high school and college credit plus course work and credentialing that provides career pathway exploration and direction, yet remains flexible enough to accommodate a student's changing interest; and

WHEREAS, the Olmsted Falls Board of Education, fully supports and charges our school administrators and teachers with inspiring and empowering all students to achieve their full potential to become meaningful contributors in a global society; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Academic Content Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics, which were adopted in December of 2001, represented the state's and Olmsted Falls' first step towards a standards-based educational system; and

WHEREAS, while Ohio's former Academic Content Standards were not market tested prior to their implementation within Ohio's Schools (including Olmsted Falls) they were nevertheless the most valid and reliable learning standards at the time within Ohio because they were created by subject matter experts who endorsed them; and

WHEREAS, the Common Core State Standards represent the next phase of a valid, standards-based educational system whereby the learning goals are clearly recognized and able to be more adequately supported within the Olmsted Falls City School System, the State of Ohio and across the majority of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, a broad array of education stakeholders support the Common Core State Standards, including educators, parents, civil rights advocates, superintendents, and elected officials; and

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WHEREAS, the Common Core State Standards by grade level represent an agreed upon set of learning outcomes for students in English-Language Arts and Mathematics across our Nation, but do not represent the final destination of student learning for students in the Olmsted Falls City School District; especially those that have mastered learning outcomes prior to the conclusion of a given academic year; and

WHEREAS, an agreed upon set of learning standards that allow educators to facilitate student learning forms a basis for a common instructional language that helps educators and related service personnel act more collaboratively within the Olmsted Falls City School District; and

WHEREAS, common core state standards are designed to provide educators the flexibility to use their professional judgment to design instruction aligned to the standards, and should support the development of educator-designed assessments and projects that actually support student learning; so

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Olmsted Falls City School District Board of Education commits to working with educators to ensure sufficient time to collaborate with each other both within their subject area teams and across grade levels to effectively plan and implement new curriculum and lessons aligned with the common core state standards;

Let it also be resolved that the Olmsted Falls City School District's Board of Education wants it to be known that publicly supporting the common set of learning objectives known as the Common Core State Standards does not represent relinquishing local control over its educational decision making, but rather demonstrates a show of support for the quality work that has been undertaken by the educators within the system; and

Let it also be resolved that the Olmsted Falls City School District's Board of Education wants it to be known that recognizing the Common Core State Standards as a common set of learning standards does not represent a "one size fits all" educational approach in the district; and

Let it also be resolved that the Olmsted Falls City School District's Board of Education wants administrators, teachers, and educational support personnel in the Olmsted Falls City School District to: build upon and further establish the *Olmsted Falls Instructional Approach* that has demonstrated a legacy of preparing its graduates for success; to be innovative and creative with their instruction; to work with their building supervisors and take calculated risks with new instructional approaches aimed at empowering and inspiring Olmsted learners; and see to it that instruction is differentiated so that students have multiple avenues and multiple times to demonstrate mastery of the important content contained in the Common Core Standards; and

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Let it also be resolved that the Olmsted Falls City School District Board of Education is committed to working with the administrators, teachers, other staff members and the overall community at large to support the creation of learning environments that implement the Common Core Standards in order to inspire and empower students along with fostering innovation and creativity within the State of Ohio's Accountability System; and

Let it also be resolved that the Olmsted Falls City School District Board of Education will ensure ongoing access to high quality professional development opportunities for teachers, education support professionals, and specialized instructional support staff related to the Common Core State Standards implementation.

Upon the roll call on the passage of the Resolution, the vote was as follows:

<u>John A. Walsh</u> , President	<u>Andy St.</u> , Vice President
<u>Grzegorz Polkowski</u>	<u>Holly A. R.</u>
<u>Joseph Bertrand</u>	

The foregoing is a true and correct excerpt from the minutes of the March 19, 2015 meeting of the Board of Education of the Olmsted Falls City School District, Cuyahoga County, Ohio showing the passage of the resolution set forth.

Maura's. Horn
Treasurer

March 19, 2015
Date