#2696

From:

Christina Martin [cxmartin@PINNACLEHEALTH.org]

Sent:

Tuesday, October 06, 2009 6:58 AM

To:

IRRC

IRRC Commissioners:

I am writing to express my support for the recently-submitted regulations to establish stronger, consistent statewide standards for high school graduation. These regulations will ensure that high school graduates from across the Commonwealth will be better prepared to enter the workforce, and to continue their education. Pennsylvania must institute these new standards if the state is to compete in the global economy.

In today's society far too many students are getting by, who are not ready for college or the workforce. In fact, the State Department of Education study, found that "one-third of recent high school graduates enrolling at the state universities or community colleges have to take at least one remedial course". The department of education, also found that, forty percent, two in five, of students who failed to test at grade level proficiency in at least one major subject area on their eleventh grade PSSA exams, graduated with no proof they ever achieved proficiency.

Not only would the Keystone Exams help to better assure a students readiness for college, it would also result in 18 hours less testing and more time for instructional teaching. The exam would replace both current final exams and the 11th grade PSSA exams.

Thank you for taking time to consider my request.

Sincerely, Christina Martin

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