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From: jeff kuleck [jmkst100@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2009 9:50 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: Keystone Exams, Regulation Number 2692
Attachments: Independent Regulatory Review Commission.doc

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Sir,

Please refer to the attachment, which pertains to the Keystone Exam.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kuleck B.A., B.S., MEd, Deputy Sheriff

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Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Chairman Arthur Coccodrilli
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA, 17101

Dear Sir,

Please allow me to comment on the proposed test(s) under the Keystone Exam. I believe that anything that reduces the amount of high-stakes testing that currently goes on, as well being relevant, applicable and measures all students in the state in an equal manor will be of great use. I stand behind the work done in preparing this exam and hope that it will address our students as they enter post high school educational settings and the workforce.

Being someone who has multiple college degrees, multiple areas of certification in the state of Pennsylvania and technical skills, I believe the following statement to be true and correct. We, as educators, spend less time teaching and more time preparing our students for high-stakes testing, as well as instructional days lost to the actual testing. From my understanding of the proposed plan, testing will be reduced, money will be saved and this test will not be an "all or nothing" exam. If this is true and there can be a direct correlation between the new testing and student success, the students of this great state will be much better prepared for higher education and the workforce.

I only have one concern though. Much of today's educational pedagogy is based on student centered/driven instruction, as well as authentic testing. If the previous is a current foundation/trend, what, or how is the Keystone Exam going to be utilized to reference the trend of not always banking on paper and pencil tests as a way to allow our students to show mastery of a subject? I understand that the Keystone Exam will account for 1/3 of the overall grade. As I said, the previous topic is just a thought.

I hope to see and hear how this project continues and is implemented. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Jeffrey M. Kuleck

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