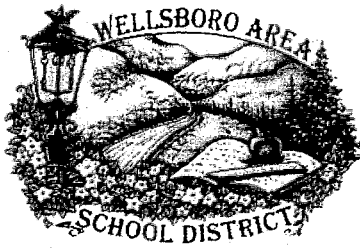


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**MAY 30 2008**

**PA. STATE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION**

Phil Waber, Superintendent

Marcia Newcomb, Business Manager  
Patrick Hewitt, High School Principal

David Krick, Middle School Principal  
Wesley Kuratomi, Elementary Principal

January 7, 2008

Ms. Karen Farmer White  
State Board of Education  
333 Market St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

2008 JUN -4 PM 1:45

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Dear State Board of Education Members:

Please consider the additional time and expense the Graduation Competency Standards will require on both the Commonwealth and local levels. The continual changes in the PSSA process are but a foreshadowing of what will happen if the GCAs become a required element in K-12 education. Our local staff and students spend more time each year in test preparation, which results in less opportunity to explore vocational and humanities related experiences.

I urge you to not adopt the new program and to continue with the present process of determining competency. If you do decide a change is needed, then at least eliminate the PSSA requirement at the high school level and have the GCAs as the only required determiner of competency.

Thank for the opportunity to provide input on this issue.

Sincerely,

Phil Waber  
Superintendent