

Buckheit, James

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From: Korchnak, Lawrence [lkorchnak@bwschools.net] 2008 JUN 12 AM 9:39
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2008 8:45 AM
To: j buckheit@state.pa.us
Subject: GCA Support

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Buckheit,

I want to express my personal and professional support for GCA's.

I have had the privilege of receiving commissions as Superintendent in two fine school districts. In between my commissions, I served as a Distinguished Educator for PDE. I learned that one of the greatest obstacles to student achievement in low performing schools is the lack of consistent performance standards and high expectations. In my opinion, there is dissonance expressed by Superintendents and Boards that oppose GCA's citing the erosion of local control while espousing the need for a globally competitive educational system consistent with world standards. How can we provide world class education without world class standards and high performance expectations?

Many predict that a great number of students will not graduate if GCA's are implemented. They underestimate our children. Students can hit any target that is clear and doesn't move on them. It is time to set that target so that all schools assume greater responsibility for those who fail.

Regards,

Lawrence C. Korchnak, Ph.D.
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