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**Minersville Area School District**

P.O. Box 787, Minersville, PA 17954

**M. Joseph Brady, Superintendent**  
(570) 544-4764 • Fax - (570) 544-6162

**Carl G. McBreen**  
High School Principal  
(570) 544-4761  
Fax - (570) 544-5866

**Judith A. McGrory**  
Elementary Principal  
(570) 544-2077  
Fax - (570) 544-1404

**James A. Yacobacci**  
Assistant Principal  
(570) 544-4761  
Fax - (570) 544-5866

**Mary Ann Wynosky**  
Curriculum/SE Supervisor  
(570) 544-4764  
Fax - (570) 544-6162

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JUN 11 2008

PA. STATE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION

February 28, 2008

**Mr. Gerald L. Zahorchak**  
Secretary of Education  
Pennsylvania Department of Education  
333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

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2008 JUN 16 PM 4:24  
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Secretary Zahorchak

I am pleased to inform you that the Minersville Area Board of Education on February 25, 2008 at a regular meeting formally and unanimously voted to spread on its minutes an expression of complete support for the action of the Pennsylvania State Board of Education in giving preliminary approval to the regulations that will establish state graduation requirements beginning with the Class of 2014.

This action followed preliminary "Committee of the Whole" work sessions at which time the Board reviewed the detailed fact sheets prepared by the Department of Education at your direction. As Superintendent, with a thirty-four year tenure in this position, I passionately believe in the need to require all students to satisfy rigorous graduation standards prior to the issuance of a diploma. The state plan to require a Graduation Competency Assessment program is essential to ensuring that our students are equipped with the core skills to function in the competitive world markets of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

By direction of the Board of Education, copies of this letter will be sent to the Chairperson of the Pennsylvania State Board of Education along with the respective Chairpersons of the Education Committees in the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Sincerely yours

**M. Joseph Brady, Superintendent**  
**MINERSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

MJB/lap