

# GREATER JOHNSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

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2696

*Pride, Tradition and Excellence*

Date: 03/19/08

Principal/  
Vocational Director  
**DANIEL RESENIC**  
Assistant Principal  
**DON CIVIS**  
Assistant Principal  
**MICHAEL VICKREY**

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
COMMISSION

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RECEIVED

Dr. Gerald Zahorchak, Secretary of Education:

As a school counselor working with our young people to help them to find their career path, I feel that the Newly Enacted High School Graduation Requirements take the necessary steps toward aligning high school graduation requirements with the demands of college and the workplace.

I actively participate in many committees and community partnerships with members of business and industry and their comments and concerns over the years are addressed throughout the Newly Enacted High School Graduation Requirements. In my experiences as a guidance counselor, as well as, a transition coordinator, working with students with disabilities, I have witnessed and experienced the evidence that the greatest determinant of future success is experience and demonstration of a specific skill set. This is evident in the manners in which the Newly Enacted High School Graduation Requirements give students a variety of ways to show they are able to demonstrate the skills in English, math, science and social studies to succeed in college and careers.

The Graduation Competency Exams will provide an excellent measurement of a student's skills and abilities, as well as, their preparedness for participation in a competitive global economy. The exams will strengthen our curriculum and instruction to provide educators with a clear definition of what it means to be a high school graduate in the state of Pennsylvania. Thus, our state will grow closer and our students more adequately prepared to carry the Commonwealth into the future.

Please accept this letter in support of the Newly Enacted High School Graduation Requirements and the great benefits which they will bestow upon both the students of Pennsylvania's Public School System and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a whole.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Lucas  
Special Needs School Counselor/  
Transition Coordinator  
Greater Johnstown High School

We are an equal rights and opportunity school district