

WEST SIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECEIVED196 Westgate Drive
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2008 JUN 23 AM 10:12

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Mr. Robert J. Beatty, Principal

Mr. Raymond Arcurio, Asst. Principal

Dear Dr. Zahorchak:

We support the State Board of Education in its decision to ensure the readiness and competency of Pennsylvania's high school graduates. The decision to support and approve regulations that would augment graduation standards is commendable.

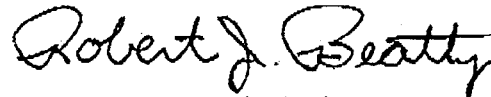
The board's unanimous vote will establish state graduation requirements, starting with the graduating class of 2014. This proposal provides districts with a variety of options to ensure student proficiency in the academic areas of math, science, English, and social studies. By providing the following options:

- Passing the new Graduations Competency Assessments
- Passing the Pennsylvania System of School Assessments
- Passing an Advanced Placement of International Baccalaureate test
- Passing a local assessment that independent evaluators certify is equivalent to Graduation Competency Assessment.

A Pennsylvania high school diploma will guarantee employers and post-secondary institutions that students are prepared and have the necessary skills to succeed in the 21st century global economy.

We officer our support and commitment to these proposals and applaud your initiatives as you strive to provide quality public education to all students in our commonwealth.

Sincerely,



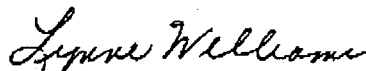
Robert J. Beatty, Principal



Raymond Arcurio, Assistant Principal



Patricia Assia, Math Facilitator



Lynne Williams, Reading Facilitator