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From: Kaufman, Kim
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2009 1:47 PM
To: Wilmarth, Fiona E.; Schalles, Scott R.; Totino, Michael, Gelnett, Wanda B.
Cc: Outreach
Subject: FW: Proposed Regulations - Keystone Exams
Attachments: September 10, 2009 - Kim Kaufman, IRRC re Keystone Exams - Alan Shuckrow pdf

FYI

From: Ryan, Rose Mary [mailto:RRyan@northalleggheny.org]
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2009 1:46 PM
To: Kaufman, Kim
Cc: jorie@pasen.gov; mturzai@pahousegop.com; rmatzai@pahouse.net
Subject: Proposed Regulations - Keystone Exams

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

Attached please find a letter to you and the Members of the Commission regarding the Keystone Exams from our Legislative Liaison on the North Allegheny School Board.

Thank you for your time.

Rose Mary Ryan, Secretary
North Allegheny School Board
rryan@northalleggheny.org
(412) 369-5437

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September 10, 2009

Mr. Kim Kaufman, Executive Director
The Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RE: Proposed Regulations—"Keystone Exams"

Dear Mr. Kaufman and Members of the Commission:

The members of the North Allegheny Board of School Directors continue to oppose the proposed regulations for Academic Standards and Assessments (known as "Keystone Exams"). We previously explained our opposition in a formal Board resolution and correspondence from our Board President. These documents are posted on your website.

As the largest suburban school district in Allegheny County, we believe that our community stands behind us in our opposition to this intrusion into local control. We also know that our neighboring school districts share our concerns. This is well-documented on your website.

Last year you declined to approve the proposed regulations for the graduate competency exams (GCA's) for many of the same reasons that still exist today.

We hope you will consider the overwhelming and wide-ranging opposition to these tests. We believe that there is a better way to approach the issue of continuing to improve student achievement. Once these regulations are defeated, we would be happy to be part of the process as opposed to having the process be dictated to us.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Very truly yours,

Alan T. Shuckrow
Alan T. Shuckrow, Board Member and Legislative Liaison
North Allegheny School Board

ATS/rmr

c: Board Members
Dr. Patricia Green, Superintendent

Honorable Jane Orié
Honorable Mike Turzai
Honorable Robert Matzie