



Arizona Department of Education
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Diane M. Douglas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Superintendent Douglas: “Arizona Parents and Children are Winners Today”

(Phoenix, Ariz., Oct. 26, 2015) – Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction Diane Douglas today released the following statement after the Arizona State Board of Education voted 6-2 to sever Arizona’s ties to the Common Core standards.

“I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank State Board of Education members Jared Taylor, Amy Hamilton, Roger Jacks, Chuck Schmidt and Tim Carter for their votes on this important issue. Today’s action means that Arizona is once again in control of its standards, which is a key step as we work together to improve education in our state.

“While the current standards for English language arts and mathematics will remain in place pending modification by the Board, this decision gives us the flexibility to make the standards more rigorous and will give us the ability to tailor them to the unique needs of our students.

“It is significant to me that despite our differences, we were able to come together in support of Arizona parents and students. At the same time, Gov. Doug Ducey has stated he is open to revising his K-12 funding plan and the Legislature appears close to resolving the education funding lawsuit. I'm convinced that while opinions on details may differ, all Republican leaders in Arizona are pulling together to move Arizona’s education system in the right direction.

“I again applaud the Board for its action and look forward to robust Arizona developed and approved standards for our children.”

End