



The Oklahoma Business Education Coalition, State Chamber, Tulsa Regional and Greater Oklahoma City Chambers have supported implementation of Common Core academic standards since original legislation was enacted in 2010. The Oklahoma business community supports these rigorous Oklahoma adopted standards that are stronger and more consistent. These higher standards put Oklahoma students on a level playing field with students from across the country. We strongly oppose any attempts to slow implementation of Oklahoma adopted standards.

Implementing Oklahoma standards will set high expectations and help us compete. The standards will help students excel in college and careers. Most importantly the standards will enable the students of today to become the catalyst for the future economic success of Oklahoma business.

We are not alone in our support for establishing Oklahoma standards for what children are required to learn in Math and English. The Oklahoma standards are supported by higher education leaders, K-12 administrators and classroom teachers.

There is a long list of conservatives who support high academic standards. See below and attached.

- “The only way to combat the current lock-step march to the bottom of international student performance in math and science is to implement rigorous national standards.”
Wall Street Journal editorial, 5/06/13
- “All Americans, including conservatives, should applaud these standards, which celebrate the country’s foundational documents and enable students to share the heritage of Americans”
Wall Street Journal editorial, 5/14/13
- “Parents and people involved in their local schools should let it be known that core standards are valuable, and not something to be afraid of – they are something to embrace.”
Conservative radio host Mike Huckabee, 5/01/13
- “.. Standards are the best path toward getting Uncle Sam and heavy-handed state governments to back off from micro-managing how schools are run.”
Charles E. Finn, Fordham Foundation
(Former Reagan Administration Staffer)

We oppose HR 1011 as it would slow efforts to improve education and increase accountability. Our state must maintain high expectations and demand high performance.