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State Board of Education
P. O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear State Education Leaders:

As a member of The Regional Business Council's K-12 Education Committee and an active member in the St. Louis public education community, I am acutely aware of the need to improve education in our state so that we can compete in the global economy. I am writing to express my support for an important effort being undertaken by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education: the Top 10 by 20 initiative. This effort to make Missouri's public education system one of the top ten in the country is crucial to the long term success of our region and the future of our state.

I applaud the work that the Department, the State Board of Education and educators across Missouri have done over the past two decades to steadily improve education in Missouri. As we look ahead, we must redouble our efforts to make sure that our graduates can compete in both national and international markets.

A well-trained, highly qualified workforce is crucial to making Missouri a destination for the high-paying, high-skill jobs of the future. This is an economic and moral imperative for the citizens of our state. Reaching the Top 10 will lead to the prosperity and success that Missouri expects!

Sincerely,

Maxine Clark
Founder and Chief Executive Bear

