

Carrollton R-VII School District

103 East 9th Street
Carrollton, Missouri 64633-2341

An **A+** Designated School

Quality education for each—Success for all

May 12, 2011

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

Dear State Board of Education Members:

I am writing this letter as an expression of my support for the *intent* of the Top 10 by 20 initiative. How can anyone argue with an initiative to help our students be more successful? If our students in Missouri are to be competitive in this national and global marketplace, educators and policy makers will need to continue raising the bar for public education. I fully endorse your efforts and those of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to make Missouri public schools more competitive and up-to-date.

Change is never easy—especially in public education. As such, I commend Commissioner Nicastro and the State Board for making difficult decisions during difficult times.

Our district, however, does have some serious concerns about the specifics of the MSIP 5 Draft. The Carrollton R-VII District suggests using more dialoguing and planning to create a realistic MSIP 5 Draft that will allow rigor and accountability without placing Missouri public school districts in an untenable and lose-lose position. But in the end, know that I understand and support efforts to move Missouri forward for the sake of our students, communities and state. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Judith DeLany, Superintendent

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