



March 29, 2013

Dear Legislator:

We are writing as concerned mayors of diverse communities across Missouri. We work diligently to support our schools, as our communities cannot thrive without well-educated and productive citizens. We support the higher education standards adopted by our state in 2010. The Common Core State Standards help ensure that our students are held to the same high-quality standards as other students in Missouri and across the country.

The standards are helping our students gain the critical thinking and problem solving skills they will need for the rest of their lives. They are focused on real-world knowledge children will need for success in life after high school graduation, both in post-secondary education and an increasingly competitive workforce.

We proudly stand with education leaders and the business community in support of the Common Core State Standards. We look forward to working closely with you and other legislative leaders to find ways to give additional resources and support to our education system so that our kids are not put at a disadvantage in this increasingly global economy. As mayors, we understand that as our schools go, so goes the future of our cities and our state.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of us with any questions or ideas on how we can further support you.

Sincerely,

Francis G. Slay  
Mayor  
City of St. Louis

Sly James  
Mayor  
Kansas City