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New Jersey PTA Supports Adoption of Education Standards

The following statement should be attributed to Judy Hyde, New Jersey PTA President

Trenton, NJ -

On June 16, 2010, the New Jersey State Board of Education adopted the common core state standards. These state-led education standards were developed by the National Governors Association for Best Practices (NGB Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).

New Jersey PTA supports the adoption of these education standards and has been actively involved in advocating for the adoption and implementation of the Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSSI) since December 2009. The standards establish clear and consistent goals for learning that will prepare New Jersey's children for success in college and work.

Developed by teachers, parents, and experts in standards, the K-12 Common Core State Standards for math and English language arts represent a common sense next step to build on all of the good work already happening in New Jersey. Today, 60 percent of students beginning community college need to take at least one remedial class. These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate from high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs.

New Jersey PTA is part of the National PTA's Common Core State Standards Initiative. NJPTA is partnering with the Gates Foundation to educate parents and community members about the standards and will continue to work this year on the implementation phase.

"As President of New Jersey Parent Teacher Association, I am proud to be on the front lines of this cutting edge education reform. We will be going around our state educating our parents on the importance of being involved with their child's education. Our current and future students will benefit greatly from standards that are clear, rigorous and globally competitive."

The adoption of Common Core State Standards paves the road forward to give every student, regardless of their zip code or income status, an education that will open the door to opportunity, mobility, career success, and good citizenship, enabling them to pursue their life aspirations.

PTA comprises millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools. PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.