



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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## SELECT COMMITTEE ON COMMON CORE RELEASES RESULTS OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT SURVEY

MADISON—The Assembly Select Committee on Common Core Standards today released the results of a survey sent to 426 school superintendents across Wisconsin.

The survey, sent in late November by Republican members of the Assembly and Senate Select Committees on the Common Core State Standards, asked district administrators about their experience adapting to new state standards. In June of 2010, State Superintendent Tony Evers adopted the Common Core standards as new model academic standards.

That decision has recently come under question by select committees in the Senate and the Assembly after the 2013 state budget called for a legislative-led review.

“We asked every school administrator in the state for their thoughts on Common Core, and a great many replied with candor,” said Rep. Jeremy Thiesfeldt (R-Fond du Lac), Chair of the Assembly Select Committee. Thiesfeldt stated further, “I would like to thank Rep. Knudson and his staff for the work they did in compiling all this data.”

The results indicate that local school districts may have spent more tax dollars adjusting to DPI model standards than was previously thought.

*”As soon as the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) were approved three years ago our district went to work . . . Our teachers and administrators spent hundreds of hours rewriting curriculum to align with the CCSS and we also created report cards based upon the new standards. We purchased textbooks, materials, and technology to align with our new curriculum at a price tag of approximately \$6 million. We also provided hundreds of hours of professional development for our teachers specific to the CCSS at a price tag of \$540,000 because we wanted to be sure our teachers were very knowledgeable about the standards and well-prepared to teach using them. The investment of money, staff time, and resources has been quite significant, at a total of \$311 per student. If this amount per student is consistent across the state, it would mean Wisconsin taxpayers have already spent a total of \$270 million for the work to align district curricula to the CCSS.”*

-Michelle Langenfeld, Superintendent of Schools and Learning, Green Bay Area School District

Additionally, at least some administrators have expressed concern about increased federal involvement in education.

*“If we adopt standards from the federal government, do we lose our state and local say in how they may change? I personally believe standards should come from the state level.”*

- Dr. Penny Boileau, Winter

*“We do object to federal control and interference into the State’s responsibility for education. If you can put safeguards in place for this it would be a good idea. Wisconsin and local boards need the autonomy to decide what is taught in the schools.”*

- Joni Burgin, Superintendent, Grantsburg

Links to the survey responses and letter can be found [here](#).