



## Resolution on Standardized Testing

2016-2

Whereas the Colorado Springs Education Association (CSEA) is the sole official elected body representing the certified staff of Colorado Springs District #11;

Whereas certified staff are the professional experts in child development, pedagogy, and content;

Whereas certified staff are well-trained to make decisions in the best interests of students so that we cultivate and nurture imagination, innovation and creativity;

Whereas the certified staff has a vested interest in the success of the next generation and our community;

Whereas the pressures on public education continue to expand;

Whereas the certified staff is concerned about test anxiety, the educational and cognitive appropriateness of standardized tests, and the misuse of assessment; and

Whereas the certified staff voice is integral to the conversation concerning appropriate and effective assessment and curriculum; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Colorado Springs Education Association (CSEA) on behalf of its members,

1. urges the use of instructional time for quality teaching, relevant assessment, and valid accountability;
2. urges the federal, state, and local authorities to eliminate the punitive nature of standardized assessments for children and staff;
3. supports community members, including certified staff, who opt their children out of these tests;
4. supports focusing our energy to ensure that we value every child for their gifts and skills;
5. supports teachers who make reasoned and thoughtful decisions to question and resist these tests;
6. supports teachers who choose to speak out concerning the appropriateness and value of these tests;
7. supports teachers who insist that education be about the child, not the system; and
8. intends to work with all constituent groups to end excessive assessments that negatively impact our students and our important work.



Affirmed on this 26<sup>rd</sup> Day of January, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Vick, President

\_\_\_\_\_ Leslie Miller, Vice-President

\_\_\_\_\_ Jerri Crouse, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ C. Joseph Schott, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_ Brian Kachel, CEA Board

\_\_\_\_\_ Melanie Blackman, Primary Director

\_\_\_\_\_ John Yates, Intermediate Director

\_\_\_\_\_ Ryan Ten Brink, Middle High Director

\_\_\_\_\_ Erica Rewey, Senior High Director

\_\_\_\_\_ Joni Hale, Mitchell Region Director

\_\_\_\_\_ Brian Mandabach, Palmer Region Director

\_\_\_\_\_ Jeff Marshall, CEA Executive Board