



Wisconsin Mathematics Council, Inc.
Leading Quality Mathematics Education in Wisconsin

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June 6, 2013

Honorable Senator Luther Olsen
Senate Education Committee Chairman
Room 123 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Olsen:

Earlier this year, I reached out to you offering the services of the Wisconsin Mathematics Council. I am once again contacting you based on the recent actions by the Joint Finance Committee. On May 22, legislators attending a joint committee on education hearing heard from invited experts on the Common Core State Standards, none of whom were Wisconsin educators. On May 29, the Joint Finance Committee voted to delay implementation of common education standards in Wisconsin, potentially including the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics, which were adopted by the state of Wisconsin in 2010.

We in the mathematics education community are dismayed that the Wisconsin legislature would take action on an issue that impacts mathematics education in Wisconsin without hearing from Wisconsin mathematics teachers. The Wisconsin Mathematics Council is a professional association of 1500 preK-16 mathematics educators from throughout Wisconsin. We represent the best interests in mathematics education for the hundreds of Wisconsin school districts and hundreds of thousands of students in Wisconsin schools. Our mission is to lead in the development and promotion of quality mathematics education that enhances learning for all educators and their students. The WMC Board and I are passionate about positively influencing education for all students, and we are advocates for quality education programs for all students, teachers, schools, districts, and all of Wisconsin.

This is a time of great change in mathematics education in Wisconsin and the nation. I would like to request a meeting with you and/or the rest of the Senate Education Committee to discuss the potential impact of these recent legislative decisions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Ebert

David Ebert
Wisconsin Mathematics Council President
Oregon High School mathematics teacher

cc: Doug Burge, Wisconsin Mathematics Council President-Elect
Mary Walz, Wisconsin Mathematics Council Positions Chair