



**January 20, 2015**  
**Press Release**

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## **DCSD Board of Education Adopts Resolution Authorizing Submission for a Waiver from PARCC Assessments**

In a 5-0 vote, the Douglas County School District (DCSD) Board of Education adopted a resolution authorizing submission for a waiver from PARCC assessments. DCSD BOE President Kevin Larsen discussed the concern of students, staff, parents and community members regarding the number of and time associated with state assessments.

### **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION FOR A WAIVER FROM PARCC ASSESSMENTS**

WHEREAS, Colorado is a local control state, where local school boards are constitutionally granted broad discretion in setting curriculum and standards for their students, and taking appropriate measures based on students' level of achievement toward those standards; and

WHEREAS, Douglas County School District has used that broad local control to pursue world-class education innovations and the most rigorous academic standards – innovations and standards that will prepare its students for the demands of the 21st Century workplace and global economy; and

WHEREAS, the Douglas County School Board desires to honor the concerns heard from its students, teachers, parents, and community regarding the negative effects of reducing instruction time in order to conduct additional state assessments, and the unnecessary costs of administering such additional state assessments, and

WHEREAS, the Douglas County School Board and District leadership has actively advocated for and advanced legislation (HB14-1202) which would provide school districts in Colorado an option to be fully accountable for creating quality, local assessments that measure what matters most for its students, report those results to the community, and recognize a parent's right to exempt their students from the statewide standardized tests without risk of a penalty to the student, teacher, school or district; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado State Board of Education passed a Resolution at its meeting on January 8, 2015 allowing local school boards to seek waivers from some assessments, related to the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness in College and Career (PARCC).



# Douglas County School District

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Douglas County School District Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent or her designee to apply for waivers from the mandates of state PARCC assessments to the extent such waivers are made available by the State Board of Education, if such waivers are deemed to be in the best interests of the students of Douglas County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs the Superintendent to work with district staff and school principals to develop two plans of action, one to be carried out if the waiver request is granted and a contingency plan to be carried out if the waiver request is not granted.

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### *About DCSD*

Douglas County School District is Colorado's third largest school district, serving more than 67,000 students. Visit the District website at [www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org).