

KITSAP PATRIOTS TEA PARTY RESOLUTION AGAINST
THE RACE TO THE TOP AND THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS
Resolution No. 001, July 29, 2013

PREAMBLE

The Kitsap Patriots Tea Party (KPTP) is a voluntary political association meeting in Kitsap County, Washington, pursuant to the rights reserved to the people by Amendment I of the Constitution of the United States, and Article I, section 1, of the Washington State Constitution. The purpose of the KPTP is to advance constitutional core principles and to elect qualified representation. The KPTP strives to defend the U.S. and State Constitutions and to uphold the principle that government should serve the people, not the converse.

INTRODUCTION

Race to the Top is the current administration's education initiative that centralizes education control at the federal level. The Common Core State Standards are a part of the Race to the Top initiative along with other federally directed components such as an enhanced Statewide Longitudinal Data System, teacher evaluations, expanded government early learning programs, and other directed programs. The Common Core State Standards were written and funded by unelected, unaccountable, private entities. These programs and standards are unconstitutional and illegal.

WHEREAS, Race to the Top, along with Common Core State Standards and other federally directed educational programs centralize educational control at the federal level and violate the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution by exercising powers not delegated to the United States federal government and denies the rights retained by the people as protected by the 9th Amendment; and

WHEREAS, Race to the Top, along with Common Core State Standards and other federally directed educational programs violate the Department of Education Organization Act of 1979, the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and the General Education Provisions Act (20 USC §1232a), which prohibit federal direction, supervision or control over curriculum, program of instruction, administration, personnel of any school, and instructional texts; and

WHEREAS, the imposition of illegal federal control was accomplished by:

1. making the adoption of a "common set of K-12 standards," which mirror the description of the Common Core State Standards, a requirement for receiving funds under the Race to the Top grant competition;
2. making the adoption of "college-and career-ready standards," which mirror the description of the Common Core State Standards, a requirement for receiving a state waiver from the onerous and costly requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). So effective is this strategy that nearly all States and territories have requested waivers;
3. requiring and funding the use of nationalized assessments that align with the Common Core State Standards; and

WHEREAS, two private organizations, the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State School Officers, in collaboration with Achieve, Inc, have written the Common Core State Standards without public input or oversight, and hold the copyright to the Standards, thus preventing the states, local districts and parents from having control over their own learning standards and assessments; and

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WHEREAS, unelected private third parties substantially funded the National Governors' Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers to advocate for and influence the development of the Common Core State Standards, and other federally directed programs, without input from or accountability to the voters and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Race to the Top and Common Core State Standards programs are heavily dependent upon the extensive and shared use of preschool through college data systems (P-20 Longitudinal data systems), including personally identifiable information (PII), the use of attitudinal and behavior information of students and teachers, and the relaxing of privacy laws; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kitsap Patriots Tea Party reject the Race to the Top and Common Core State Standards programs, and all other federally directed educational programs, as unconstitutional and illegal. They should be defunded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kitsap Patriots Tea Party vigorously advocates the protection of constitutional and statutory prohibitions against the federal direction or control of national educational standards, and reaffirms local educational control by districts and parents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kitsap Patriot Tea Party vigorously opposes any federal requirement to adopt Race to the Top programs or Common Core State Standards, or any other national education mandate as a condition to receive federal support in any form.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kitsap Patriots Tea Party vigorously advocates for Washington State to withdraw from the Common Core State Standards, withdraw as the lead state for the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, one of the two assessment-development consortia, and refuse federal funds and mandates, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kitsap Patriots Tea Party most strongly advocates for individual liberty, the protection of privacy, and the enforcement of privacy laws to protect the individual interests of students and teachers, which includes but may not be limited to:

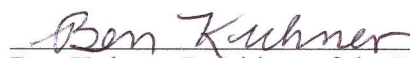
1. confining the collection of personal data to academic and course-related information,
2. confining the reach of data-collection to public schools, and not extend data-collection to private schools, learning centers, extra-curricular activities, and other student activities,
3. preventing the sharing of any personal data with any person or entity other than state schools, the State Board of Education, or the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, without the prior written consent of the person or a child student's parent or guardian,
4. preventing the sharing of any student data with employers, or with federal or state employment agencies, or other employment agencies, without the prior written consent of an adult student or a child student's parent or guardian; and

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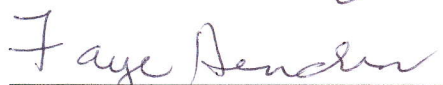
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kitsap Patriots Tea party strongly advocates for the increased awareness of Race to the Top, Common Core State Standards, and other federally directed educational programs for the purpose of encouraging citizens and elected officials to reject this unlawful and unconstitutional assault on local control and individual liberty.


ADOPTED this 29th day of July, 2013.


Kitsap Patriot Tea Party Board of Directors

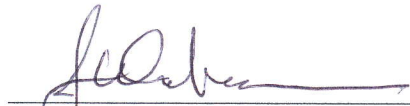

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