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March 5, 2012

Members, Education Standing Committee
Utah State Senate
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Committee Members:

During recent State Board of Education meetings, the Board has heard public comment from individuals expressing concerns that they did not feel adequate opportunity to express their opinions prior to the adoption of the Utah Core Standards. During meetings of the House and Senate Education Standing Committees in the current General Session of the Legislature, similar concerns have been expressed.

Because of these expressions of concern, it is our intention to schedule a public forum where members of the State Board of Education will listen to voices that wish to discuss the Utah Core Standards in English/language arts and mathematics. We intend to invite members of the Legislature's Education Interim Committee to join Board members at this forum. We will announce a date, time, and location in the near future.

We know that you share our understanding of the obligation to ensure an ample opportunity for diverse opinions to be heard as we carry our partnership of public education governance described by the Utah Constitution.

Sincerely,

Debra G. Roberts
Chair, State Board of Education

Dixie L. Allen
Vice Chair, State Board of Education

Larry K. Shumway, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

cc: Governor Gary Herbert
Utah Legislature