



# MEDIA STATEMENT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
March 10, 2010

**CONTACT:** Kirk Monroe  
(202) 496-3269

---

## Statement from Business Roundtable on the Release of Proposed K-12 Common Core State Standards

**Washington** – “Business Roundtable’s CEOs are pleased with the proposed K-12 Common Core State Standards released today by the [National Governors Association](#) and the [Council of Chief State Officers](#). These standards, developed in conjunction with teachers, school administrators and experts, represent one of the most important developments in the history of American education.

“Since the release of *A Nation at Risk* in 1983, it has been increasingly clear that despite incremental reforms and progress in some states and school districts, academic expectations for American students have not been high enough. K-12 education in the United States leaves far too many students unprepared for postsecondary education and the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace. There is no reason why students in the United States should not achieve at the same levels as their international peers in high-performing countries.

“In the United States, education is a state responsibility and it will be up to states to adopt the common standards. The K-12 Common Core State Standards initiative is a voluntary effort led by the states in an effort to raise academic standards across the country.

“The Common Core Standards are open for public comment until April 2, 2010 at [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org). To ensure they are aligned with both college and work expectations, we encourage employers to review and comment on the draft documents before they are finalized,” said John J. Castellani, President of Business Roundtable.

###

*Business Roundtable is an association of chief executive officers of leading U.S. companies with nearly \$6 trillion in annual revenues and more than 12 million employees. Member companies comprise nearly a third of the total value of the U.S. stock markets and pay more than 60 percent of all corporate income taxes paid to the federal government. Annually, they return more than \$167 billion in dividends to shareholders and the economy.*

*Business Roundtable companies give more than \$7 billion a year in combined charitable contributions, representing nearly 60 percent of total corporate giving. They are technology innovation leaders, with more than \$111 billion in annual research and development spending – nearly half of all total private R&D spending in the U.S.*

Please visit us at [www.businessroundtable.org](http://www.businessroundtable.org), check us out on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#), and follow us on [Twitter](#).