



1 SB 2213 – Science of Mathematics – Testimony in support with a request for an amendment

2 I appreciate the opportunity to discuss Senate Bill No. 2213, which aims to enhance mathematics
3 instruction across our state. While we support the bill's objectives, we propose an amendment to
4 the professional development mandate. This amendment is a follow up to what Kevin Hoherz
5 just read to you which was Dr. Perry Just's testimony from Mandan.

6 **Proposed Amendment:**

7 We suggest that districts demonstrating effective mathematics instruction and achieving student
8 performance above the state average be exempted from additional mandated professional
9 development. This exemption would recognize and reward districts that have already established
10 successful mathematics programs.

11 **Rationale:**

- 12 1. **Recognition of Excellence:** Districts with proven success in mathematics instruction
13 should be acknowledged for their effective practices. Mandating additional professional
14 development in these cases may not be necessary and could divert resources from other
15 areas in need.
- 16 2. **Resource Allocation:** Allowing exemptions would enable high-performing districts to
17 allocate time and resources to other pressing needs, thereby optimizing educational
18 outcomes across various subjects.
- 19 3. **Local Autonomy:** Empowering districts to assess their professional development needs
20 fosters innovation and responsiveness to unique community contexts.

21 **Implementation:**

22 We recommend establishing clear criteria for exemption eligibility, including:

- 23 • Consistently high student performance in mathematics assessments.
- 24 • Evidence of effective teaching practices and curriculum alignment.
- 25 • Ongoing internal professional development initiatives.

26 Districts meeting these criteria could qualify for an exemption through NDDPI.

27 **Conclusion:**

28 By amending Senate Bill No. 2213 to include this exemption, we can honor the achievements of
29 high-performing districts while maintaining our commitment to statewide educational
30 excellence. This approach balances the need for rigorous standards with the recognition of local
31 successes. I've attached the amendment request along with my testimony,.