

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 270

*Approved* May 12, 2000

WHEREAS, Article 31 was intended to motivate schools statewide to do a better job teaching and push students to reach higher academic standards, and to hold schools accountable if they don't deliver results, and

WHEREAS, Several board members, officials from the state Department of Education and state legislators who toured the local schools referred to Coventry as "a cutting-edge district" with a lot of ideas to offer other communities, and

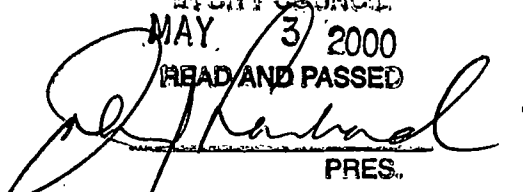

WHEREAS, Coventry was the first district the Board of Regents visited to see the law in action, because it's one of the only districts in the state that has started to achieve the legislation's goals. It appears that Coventry is at the forefront of many education initiatives, especially with the standards movement, they're bearing results, and

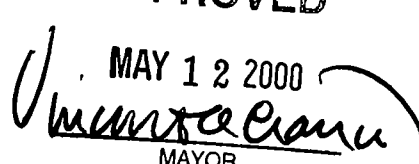
WHEREAS, The presentation about the school's new style of teacher conferences, which involve both students and parents. The state officials praised the schools for posting the math and language arts standards on the walls and displaying examples of exceptional student work. They also noted the level of professionalism among the faculty members, and

WHEREAS, The district's scores on the statewide New Standards Reference Exams in math and language arts, which all fourth, eighth and tenth graders take each year, have improved over the last couple of years, and

WHEREAS, Not all of the students are proficient yet, and the district has developed "safety-net programs," such as before-and after-school tutoring sessions to help them improve. We realize that there are still kids struggling with this model. Indeed, Coventry isn't perfect but it could be as good as it gets in terms of making Article 31 a reality. The district offers the regents a great example of the education legislation's success.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby requests the Providence School Department to adopt stricter state standards in its classroom practices (1997 Education law known as Article 31).

CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 3 2000  
READ AND PASSED  
  
PRES.  
Michael R. Clement  
CLERK 

APPROVED  
  
MAY 12 2000  
MAYOR

8. *Passer Lombardi*