



NEWS STATEMENT

CONTACT: Sandy Boyd, Achieve, (202) 419-1542 or sboyd@achieve.org

Achieve Commends State-Led Effort to Create K-12 Common Core Education Standards

Cites Strong Draft as Building on Best State and International Practices

WASHINGTON – March 10, 2010 – Achieve president Mike Cohen today released the following statement commending the Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSI), a group of 48 states organized by the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), on the release of draft K-12 education standards in English and mathematics:

"The draft standards released today by NGA and CCSSO are very strong, building on the best state and international standards. They are rigorous and provide classroom teachers with a clear and focused picture of what students must learn in math and English Language Arts to be well prepared for postsecondary education and 21st century jobs."

"Today's release is an important step toward a consistent set of expectations for our students, regardless of where they live. This draft deserves the serious attention of educators, parents and policymakers. I am pleased that Achieve's experts have played a role in their development."

To learn more about the CCSI, visit www.corestandards.org. To submit feedback on the draft, visit <http://feedback.corestandards.org/survey>.

To learn more about Achieve's college- and career-ready agenda, visit www.achieve.org.

###

Created in 1996 by the nation's governors and corporate leaders, Achieve is an independent, bipartisan, nonprofit education reform organization based in Washington D.C. that helps states raise academic standards and graduation requirements, improve assessments, and strengthen accountability. Achieve is leading the effort to make college and career readiness a national priority so that the transition from high school graduation to postsecondary education and careers is seamless. To make college and career readiness a priority, in 2005 Achieve launched the American Diploma

Project Network. Starting with 13 original states, the Network has now grown to include 35 states educating nearly 85 percent of all U.S. public school students. Through the ADP Network, governors, state education officials, postsecondary leaders and business executives work together to improve postsecondary preparation by aligning high school standards, assessments, graduation requirements and accountability systems with the demands of college and careers. For more information about the work of Achieve, visit www.achieve.org.