From:	Dan Farr
To:	OPI Waivers
Subject:	Support for waiver from double testing
Date:	Tuesday, October 01, 2013 7:57:37 AM

To: Mr. Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education
Department of Education Test Coordinator Personnel

I am writing to support the State Superintendent's request for a waiver of the obligation to administer the CRT test which would allow the Sidney School District to field test the new Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) test. The Sidney School District supports effective assessment of learning but it makes little sense to continue to require the CRT test, which is not aligned with the Board of Public Education's standards. Ultimately, this steals time from students that could be better used to help students learn and to let teachers teach.

Educational testing of students should not be a quid-pro-quo situation, rather a common sense situation that removes this unnecessary duplication, increases time on curriculum, reduces testing costs, and allows districts to use personnel more efficiently.

I respectfully request that you grant the State Superintendent's requested waiver and engage in actions that are in the best interests of student learning.

Sincerely,

Daniel T. Farr, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Sidney Public Schools