

# Walker Supports State Common Core Commission

**Governor Walker** tells the 2014 Convention audience a commission is “thoughtful and reasonable”



**A**dding another wrinkle to Wisconsin’s hesitant embrace of the Common Core State Standards, Gov. Scott Walker told convention attendees he supported a state commission to examine the model standards in Wisconsin, eventually making recommendations to the state superintendent.

“I think (a commission) is a thoughtful and reasonable way to go forward and avoid going off on a hundred different tangents,” Walker said.

Though sketchy about the commission’s make-up, Walker said appointments by the state superintendent, governor, and Legislature would comprise the study group.

“I’m all for high standards,” the Governor said. “In fact, I want Wisconsin to have higher standards than any other state. There’s got to be a way for us to put our fingerprints on it. The standards we have in the state should be driven by people in Wisconsin.”

*[Editor’s note: Updated information about the governor’s commission is available at [wasb.org](http://wasb.org).]*

Walker also touted his efforts to confront the state’s workforce shortages. He said more than 1,200 students were in youth apprenticeship programs last year, noting, “Manufacturing jobs pay 25 percent more than the average job in Wisconsin.”

“Increasingly, a two-year degree or a certificate is necessary for a family-sustaining job,” he said.


Walker urged school board members to place greater value on welders, fabricators and other manufacturing jobs, “We need young people to aspire to those (technical

professions.” He added that the greatest growth in new technical college students come from the ranks of those with four-year degrees.

The Governor concluded by discussing his work in getting Act 10 passed.


“More than anything, I wanted to put power back in the hands of locally elected school board members. Ultimately, you should be responsible for what happens in your community. We’ve empowered you to focus on curriculum and what’s best for your students.” ■

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