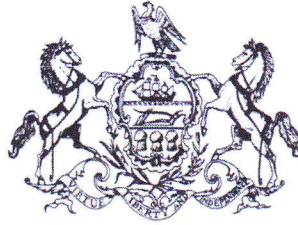


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MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative Cherelle Parker
Date: February 9, 2012
Subject: Co-sponsorship of Resolution – Requesting Study of Flip Model of Educational Instruction

In the near future, I am planning to introduce a resolution to direct the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study the “flipped classroom model” of educational instruction as a potentially effective approach to educating students, particularly in low-performing schools. The resolution will also direct the committee to identify low-performing schools for the Pennsylvania Department of Education to test the model.

The recently designed flip model of educational instruction utilizes a flipped class structure, or reversed educational model. Instead of the teacher lecturing in the classroom and assigning homework, students watch pre-recorded videos of lectures while outside the classroom and then work on “homework” assignments in the classroom with the assistance and support of their teacher. Such videos are posted on the school’s website and students are able to view them at various locations made convenient and accessible by the school, such as the school library or computer lab during extended hours.

The Clintondale High School, a low-income school located near Detroit, Michigan, has utilized the flip model of educating students with rather noteworthy results. The school has reported significant decreases in student failure rates, along with considerable decreases in student disciplinary incidents. As such, this innovative model of teaching holds great promise for improving educational and disciplinary outcomes at Pennsylvania’s low-performing schools, and deserves to be studied in more depth. Indeed, the flip model may provide a level playing field for students in all neighborhoods to better learn, achieve and succeed, regardless of their socio-economic status.

If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Germaine Brown in my office by phone at 783-2178, or by e-mail at gbrown@pahouse.net.

FEB 16 2012