

## *Advisory committee encouraged to advocate on graduation standards*

State Senator Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering), chair of the Senate Education Committee, recently told members of the Superintendent’s Advisory Committee for High School Graduation Standards to reach out to their legislators if they believe the relaxed graduation requirements in place for 2018 graduates should be extended, as recommended by the State Board of Education.

Lehner said she has seen “pretty shocking” data from districts whose 2018 graduation rates would have been significantly lower if the relaxed requirements had not been in place. She supports extending the eased requirements, noting that would be less disruptive than establishing new requirements which would likely change again – as a result of the committee’s recommendations – in two years.

State Representative Andy Brenner (R-Powell), chair of the House Education & Career Readiness Committee, said in an interview with Gongwer News Services that no action should be taken prior to review of test results as reflected on state report cards to be released in September.

“We want to see some more data, we want to see some more results and then we’ll go from there,” he said.

The committee has discussed and debated adoption of a new framework – that may include a culminating student experience project – for graduation that would allow students to demonstrate proficiency in English and math in ways other than assessments.

The advisory group is tasked with making recommendations on graduation pathways for 2021 and beyond.

