

2696

From: marcitierney@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2008 11:43 AM
To: j buckheit@state.pa.us; IRRRC; jrhoades@pasen.gov; musto@pasenate.com; jstairs@pahousegop.com; jroebuck@pahouse.net; dmilne@pahousegop.com; eerickson@pasen.gov
Subject: GCAs

State Board of Education
333 Market St.
Harrisburg, PA 17126

Dear Mr. Buckheit, and State Board of Education Members,

I am writing to express my ardent opposition to the Graduation Compency Assessments (GCAs). I am opposed for several reasons, including:

- * GCAs will not be provided in a format that meets the needs of diverse learners. My son has an IEP which is not adequately addressed by GCAs.
- * The State already tests in math, reading and science through the PSSA exams. Double testing of our students is a waste of valuable resources.
- * GCAs do not test our students on relevant 21st century skills, and valuable class time will have to be diverted to prepare students to take these additional tests. I find that teachers already adjust the curriculum to 'teach to the test' rather than educate my children to be creative thinkers and problem solvers - a skill that is a much greater predictor of success than simply regurgitating facts.

Please do not implement GCAs!

Sincerely,

Marci Tierney
Tredyffrin/Easttown School District Resident

RECEIVED
2008 MAY 22 PM 1:13
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION