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**From:** Maren Levine [marenlevine@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2008 8:13 AM  
**To:** jbuckheit@state.pa.us; IRRRC; jrhoades@pasen.gov; musto@pasenate.com; jstairs@pahousegop.com; jroebuck@pahouse.net; dmilne@pahousegop.com; crubley@pahousegop.com; eerickson@pasen.gov; andydinniman@pasenate.com  
**Cc:** DavidLevine@Alpha-Scientific.com  
**Subject:** PLEASE SAY NO TO GCA TESTING

Dear Decision Makers,

As Tredyffrin/Easttown parents with three children going through the district, we are STRONGLY OPPOSED to the GCA proposal for a number of reasons.

Mainly, our children are burdened with so many exams that they now spend a considerable portion of the school year, "prepping" for each individual exam. In our district, these now begin in first grade, with the "gifted" test, examining which kids fall into the challenge program. From ERB's and PSSA's to Advanced Placement exams (of which are eldest in 9th grade is currently taking) to the SAT subject test (of which our 9th grader again will take in one week for biology), these kids have time for little else than test prep, intensive exam studying and inordinate amounts of worry!! These kids are tested in math, reading and science already through PSSA's. Do we have to double dose them?? It's overkill!!

Secondly, these tests go against the notion that children are individuals with varied learning styles. Not all kids are able to do well on standardized tests and by putting such high stakes on these exams (ie - being rejected from a college that previously accepted them), is a horribly unfair consequence for many.

We are concerned parents who don't want any more hoops placed in the way for our already overtaxed kids and implore you to vote AGAINST the GCA's

Sincerely,

Maren and David Levine  
(parents of Sarah age 15, Noah age 12, and Hannah age 7)

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