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**From:** Deby Ross [debyross@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2008 10:43 PM  
**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.us; IRRRC; jrhoades@pasen.gov; musto@pasenate.com; jstairs@pahousegop.com; jroebuck@pahouse.net; dmlne@pahousegop.com; cruble@pahousegop.com; eerickson@pasen.gov; andydinniman@pasenate.com  
**Subject:** GCA's Letter From Resident of Tredyffrin-Easttown, PA

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

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 INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
 REVIEW COMMISSION

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

I am writing to express my opposition to the GCAs.

Like "No Child Left Behind," I am not sure what relevancy this testing bears on student learning as a whole. As a former teacher, I fail to see how this will improve our educational system. TE School District is an excellent place and the high school was rated 79th in the state by "US News and World Report." As a parent of a TE student, I see how our children are already performing at a high level that exceeds expectations and exerts a fair amount of pressure. It is a shame that children no longer have as much time to cultivate a love of learning and explore various subject areas. Instead, they are being exposed to test after test which somehow government officials see as improving our learning statewide.

I am opposed because GCAs will not be provided in a format that meets the needs of diverse learners.  
 I am opposed because we already test our students in math, reading and science through the state PSSA exams.  
 I am opposed to double testing of our students. I am opposed because students in our district are already reaching proficiency in reading, math, and science either through the PSSA exams or through a comprehensive, local assessment.

I am opposed because 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.

Most sincerely,

Deby and William Ross  
 Tredyffrin/Easttown residents

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