

**From:** Cindy Sillhart [cinsill@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 23, 2008 12:19 PM  
**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.us; IRRC; 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:** Graduation Competency Assessments

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,

We are writing to express our opposition to the GCAs. GCAs will not be provided in a format that meets the needs of diverse learners.

We are opposed because we already test our students in math, reading and science through the state PSSA exams.

We are opposed to double testing of our students.

We are 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.

We are 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,

James and Cynthia Sillhart  
Tredyffrin/Easttown resident

5/23/2008