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**From:** Katrina Hayday Wester [katrina.wester1@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 26, 2008 8:28 PM  
**To:** j buckheit@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  
**Subject:** Graduation Competency Assessments (GCAs) Comments

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

I am writing to express my opposition to the GCAs.

I am opposed because GCA's as stated in the documentation do not appear to provide a format that meets the needs of diverse learners. As a parent of a children an I.E.P. (Individualized Education Program), I'm concerned that continually testing my child (even though he can take a test endlessly until he passes) will destroy his self-esteem and confidence. Provisions for children with "disabilities" and "English Language Learners" is certainly different to children with developmental delays or children who just need additional assistance, and it doesn't appear clear that this is being taken into consideration at all.

Additionally, 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.

Most sincerely,

Katrina Hayday Wester

Tredyffrin/Easttown resident

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REVIEW COMMISSION

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