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**From:** Catherine Ferreri [kay\_ferreri@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 04, 2008 4:44 PM  
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**Subject:** Graduation Competency Assessment

Dear State Representatives,

I am a parent in the Tredyffrin Easttown School District and have been for seven years. I am opposed to the Graduation Competency Assessments for several reasons.

- 1) Teachers are already hampered by the current number of tests the students have to take on a yearly basis. Teaching to "the test" has discourgaed creativity in the classroom and has taken away time from other important skills such as public speaking, working with others and thinking outside the box.
- 2) There are a number of very bright students that are simply not good standardized test takers. These students usually do well on a day to day basis in the classroom and get good grades. More standardized tests would do nothing but negatively affect these students. Their competency should be judged by their teachers who work with them every day, not another standardized test that only works well for those who test well.
- 3) Ten additional tests would already add to the high stress level of all students.
- 4) Local level control is what is needed for school districts. Although the intent of the Competency Tests is good, I am afraid that they will negatively impact those school districts that are successful. Please find another way to help those school districts that are not as successful.

Thank you so much for letting me voice my opinion and for voting on our behalf AGAINST GCA.

Kay Ferreri  
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