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Buckheit, James

From: Kelly Peltier [kelpel1220@verizon.net]

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Sent: Friday, May 30, 2008 8:48 PM

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Subject: No to GCA

May 30, 2008

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Harrisburg, PA 17126

Kelly Peltier
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State Board of Education

610-431-3033

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

I am writing to express my opposition to the GCAs. Enough with the testing!! At a time when many colleges are doing away with the SAT requirement, the state and federal government, along with local districts attempting to prepare students, are piling up on standardize testing. Let's get back to teaching (and NOT teaching to tests) and the assessments will take care of themselves.

To say to students that all their hard work and all their academic achievement is not as important as the results of a state administered test, one test at that, is unfair and opposed to every educational philosophy.

Students are already being tested enough. Students in our district, WCASD, are already reaching proficiency in reading, math, and science either through the PSSA exams or through a comprehensive, local assessment.

The unfortunate learners who will never pass such a test due to different learning styles will really be the ones being left behind.

Let high school students focus on their GPAs, SAT testing and college prep classes, things that matter to their life!

Do the right thing!

6/2/2008