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Buckheit, James

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From: mary farence [liamslandscaping@msn.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 01, 2008 11:22 AM
To: jbuckheit@state.pa.us
Subject: graduation requirements

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Mr. Buckheit, State Board of Education, PA

Yo cannot standardize graduation requirements without standardizing the entire educational system. School districts are limited (or in some areas not) by the tax base of the area. Since everyone does not have access to the same books, computers, teachers etc trying to standardize graduation is putting the cart before the horse. Kids that live in poor areas that already have a high drop out rate will not be able to pass these tests.

Another problem is by the time children reach the high school level they have been saturated with standardized tests that to them are almost meaningless. they get the results months later. We have created a situation where the kids don't care about them so how can you use one to decide if someone graduates.

Another problem I see is how to handle kids with special needs. What type of provisions are you making for them?

Sincerely,

Mary Farence
Falls Township, PA

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6/2/2008