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Buckheit, James

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**From:** Wright, Bettie [bwright@pvsd.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 03, 2008 3:37 PM  
**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.us  
**Subject:** GCA  
**Importance:** High

2008 JUN -5 PM 1:28

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Mr. Buckheit:

After reading the information on Graduate Competency Tests I have decided to oppose this new regulation for the following reasons:

- 1) Our students are already being tested with subject-specific exams including AP Exams.
- 2) Our students who have IEP's are already experiencing traumatic responses to PSSA testing...Special Education students should not be required to take PSSA's and GCA exams. We have a student who had brain damage from a terrible automobile accident. This student will never be able to pass these exams. There is no benefit by testing the special ed. students. Plus, we are wasting tax-payers money for testing such students.
- 3) Many of our students are already taking AP courses starting in 10th grade and are required to take the AP exams. So there is no need to continuously test these students. Our students miss class instruction for the numerous PSSA tests: about 27 - 30 hours.
- 4) I personally feel that the money for the GCA's would be better spent helping the students who are struggling by providing them with individual or small group instruction each school year.

We do not need additional testing.

Sincerely,  
Bettie M. Wright  
German Teacher  
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6/3/2008