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Buckheit, James

**From:** Miller, Janet [jmill@chichestersd.org]

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**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2008 3:44 PM**To:** jbuckheit@state.pa.usINDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION**Subject:** Graduation Competency Assessments

Dear Mr. Buckheit,

As a parent of three children and as an educator for 10 years in the public school system, I think passing the Graduation Competency Assessments would do our society a great disservice. Everyone has different learning styles. Not everyone performs well under pressure – especially with paper and pencil assessments.

Take my son for instance, he will begin high school next year. He is very bright, in Honors classes, and was on the honor roll 3 out of 4 marking periods this year (he missed honor roll by 2 tenths of a point in one subject last marking period.) He, however, does not always do well on standardized tests. Last year he received Basic in both Reading and Math on his PSSAs. I'm sure he isn't alone. That is just one example.

There are too many variables to contend with when working with people. I think it would be completely unfair not to mention unjust to require them to pass at the proficient level on these standardized tests. We are going to have many overcrowded school districts with students in "limbo." This is a bad idea!!!!

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,  
Janet M. Miller  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher  
Hilltop Elementary School  
Chichester School District

6/2/2008