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Buckheit, James

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From: Chamberlain, Peter [p_chamberlain@conradweiser.org]

Sent: Monday, June 02, 2008 3:01 PM

2008 JUN -5 PM 1:30

To: j buckheit@state.pa.us

Subject: Graduation Competency Assessments: Absolutely not.

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

TO: State Board of Education

RE: Graduation Competency Assessments

ATTN: James Buckheit, Executive Director

DA: June 2, 2008

Graduation Competency Assessments: *Absolutely not.*

Opportunities to demonstrate "level of competency" in literacy, mathematics, science and citizenship: a resounding *yes!*

Tests - I have yet to see a test that can't be "beat".

Standardized tests are no better than a "pet rock" - they're "given" their false sense of value.

And my gut instincts tell me all tests are inevitably misused.

Stop "standardizing" tests - there's not enough room on the paper for all the questions we should be asking.

If you must - Come up with a way that juniors and seniors can attain different levels, at their own discretion - let them use it as a nice "filler" for their resume.

Sincerely,

Pete Chamberlain, M.Ed.

Health and Gym Teacher

6/2/2008