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Buckheit, James

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**From:** Balsone, Tracy [balt@asd.k12.pa.us]**Sent:** Tuesday, June 03, 2008 2:31 PM**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.us**Subject:** GCAs

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Buckheit:

I am writing to let you know that I oppose the GCAs. I am a parent of a child in vocational education and believe that he can demonstrate his knowledge in different ways other than tests. No child should be denied a diploma just because they don't do well on standardized academic tests. This will most likely increase the drop out rate and frustrate students.

I also believe that money should NOT be wasted on more testing when we already have the PSSAs. The money could be much better utilized for struggling students via smaller class sizes, tutoring, summer school programs and increased funds for parental involvement programs.

Sincerely,

Tracy Balsone

6/3/2008