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Buckheit, James

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From: Peg Makela [pmakela@mnsd.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2008 4:13 PM
To: j buckheit@state.pa.us
Subject: GSA's

2008 JUN -9 PM 3:01

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear State Board of Education,

I object to the misguided plan of requiring the high stakes exit exams, the Graduation Competency Assessments. Paper and pencil standardized exams are imperfect measure of a student's knowledge. The money for these GCA'S could be spent for better programs, and we already have standardized tests, the PSSA'S. And please consider what is going to happen to the students who drop out because they feel sure they won't graduate if they have to score Proficient on these GSA'S or who just haven't scored proficient on all of them by the end of their senior year. Will they be out on the street? Will they unable to get a decent job without high school diploma?

Thank you for your kind consideration about this important issue. ~Peg Makela

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I can not live without books.
~ Thomas Jefferson

6/5/2008