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From: Frank Aufiero [FAufiero@carrowdoyle.com]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2008 1:10 PM
To: jbuckheit@state.pa.us; IRRRC; jrhoades@pasen.gov; musto@pasenate.com; jstairs@pahousegop.com; jroebuck@pahouse.net; dmilne@pahousegop.com; crubley@pahousegop.com; eerickson@pasen.gov; andydinniman@pasenate.com
Subject: GCA's

Dear Mr. Buckheit, and State Board of Education Members,

I am writing to express my **opposition** to the GCAs.

I have outlined the numerous reasons why I am opposed:

- 1) I am opposed because GCAs will not be provided in a format that meets the needs of diverse learners.
- 2) I am opposed because we already test our students in math, reading and science through the state PSSA exams.
- 3) I am opposed to double testing of our students. I am opposed because students in our district are already reaching proficiency in reading, math, and science either through the PSSA exams or through a comprehensive, local assessment.
- 4) I am opposed because GCAs do not test our students on relevant 21st century skills, and valuable class time will have to be diverted to prepare students to take these additional tests.
- 5) Lastly, the money that would be spent on designing, administering, and evaluating the GCAs would be better spent on smaller classroom sizes, early identification and intervention of learning differences, and providing all PA students with the tools they need to be more successful in the classroom.

Most sincerely,

Frank Aufiero
Carrow Doyle & Associates, LLP
Certified Public Accountants
400 Berwyn Park, Suite 115
Berwyn, PA 19312
Phone: 610.854.1000
Fax: 610.854.1001
email: faufiero@carrowdoyle.com

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