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**From:** The Barrios family [thebarriosfamily@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 09, 2008 1:42 PM  
**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.us; IRRRC; jrholdes@pasen.gov; musto@pasenate.com; jstairs@pahousegop.com; jroebuck@pahouse.net; dmilne@pahousegop.com; cruble@pahousegop.com; eerickson@pasen.gov; andydinniman@pasenate.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the GCAs

State Board of Education  
333 Market St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17126

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

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

I am opposed because GCAs will not be provided in a format that meets the needs of diverse learners . Secondly, we already test our students in math, reading and science through the state PSSA exams and 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. In addition, 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. Lastly, the money that would be spent on designing, administering, and evaluating the GCAs would be better spent on smaller classroom sizes, providing full-day kindergarten for all PA students, and providing students with the tools they need to be more successful in the classroom.

Sincerely,

Catherine Barrios  
Tredyffrin/Easttown resident

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

6/10/2008