

Buckheit, James

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From: Dunsmore [duns5@zoominternet.net]

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Sent: Friday, June 06, 2008 9:05 AM

To: j buckheit@state.pa.us

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Subject: NO to GCA

We write this to oppose the proposed graduation competency assessment mandate. After four years spent in a rich learning environment discovering their strengths and interests and ready to move on and explore these interests you want to penalize students by administering an "all or nothing" test? What will this prove? That not all students are good test takers? Isn't the move by some top US colleges and universities to discount the ACT/SAT testing scores proof enough that success does not lie in how students test out? The schools's curriculum combined with the student's classroom performance, extracurricular activities and evidence of character and talent will remain the most direct indicators of future success. Some things cannot be measured by standardized tests. And these may be the most important.

Rick and Lilly Dunsmore