

Buckheit, James

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From: Sharon Sweitzer [kenjonali@bee.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2008 4:08 PM
To: dpileggi@pasen.gov
Cc: andydinniman@pasenate.com; jbuckheit@state.pa.us
Subject: Graduation exit exam

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

I tried to access Art Hershey's e-mail because he is my local representative, but I could not find his email on the site I found your email address...

Dear Senator Pileggi,

I understand there is some consideration of instituting a graduation exit exam in Pennsylvania. I am very opposed to this. I have four daughters that are in JR high and high school at Octorara. I feel there is already totally too much time spent on testing. As it is currently, there is a minimum of two weeks of school spent testing on. They have the 4sight four times a year and then two weeks of PSSA testing. The PSSA test is, in my opinion, not very worthwhile. I know several students (in addition to one of my daughters) that scored as "not proficient" on the PSSA, yet she is in all honors classes and has received straight A's in all subjects.

I know several exemplary students that have gone on to prestigious colleges and done very well, but they did not do well on the PSSA. I think the PSSA is not a well developed test.

Please do not support a High School graduation exam. Pennsylvania has enough testing as it is. Some students just do not test well, but that is not a true representation of their knowledge or abilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sharon Sweitzer

Highland Township
Octorara School District

PS: Please forward this message to Art Hershey. Thank you.