2976

Hoffman, Stephen F.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Wednesday, October 30, 2013 10:47 PM

To:

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Virginia

Last Name: Tabor

Address: 46 Covington Pl., Catasaugua, PA 18032

Email: vtabor8194@rcn.com

Subject: Stop Implementation of PA Common Core

Message:

PA Common Core is an expensive, one-size-fits -all education and data gathering program for all students which is grossly unAmerican. This is the only country in history founded on Individual Freedom. To be free and independent requires the ability to think. Common Core teaches what to think, not how to think. Please! Don't inflict Common Core on Pennsylvania's young, vulnerable minds.

7

N

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Thursday, October 31, 2013 6:27 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Steve

Last Name: Wayde

Address: 148 E Harrisburg Ave, Elizabethtown, PA

Email: waydes@gmail.com

Subject: Public comment on Regulation #6 – 326: Academic Standards and Assessment

Message:

If Pennsylvania has already had standards, and we failed to meet those standards, how will simply substituting those standards with another set of standards fix the problem? We already have assessment methods in place for students—grades. Teachers use grades assess the success of their students. Schools use grades to assess the effectiveness of teachers and students. Are we saying that grading is no longer an effective measure for assessing the success of students? I would agree that if the data showed all of our students were showing proficient grades but yet were doing poorly on state assessments and required remedial help for higher education, that the standards were the problem. I do not believe that this is the case. I would argue that those students that did poorly on state assessments and required remedial help also receive poor grades in the classroom. If we allow students to progress to the next level without mastering the current material, then we are just setting those students up for failure. Having state assessments is useful in evaluating the effectiveness of school districts in educating their students in comparison to the rest of the state. This provides the state with an informed method of knowing which school districts need the most assistance. The state should feel free to change the educational standards to better gauge the success of school districts and students. However, establishing statewide graduation requirements will not fix the root problem—it will just add to the bureaucracy and cost. I would urge that the requirements for graduation be removed from the regulations.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Thursday, October 31, 2013 10:30 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Coleen

Last Name: Carignan

Address: 1802 Wilderness Cir Gibsonia PA 15044

Email: farrellcarignan@hotmail.com

Subject: PA Core Standards

Message:

ref no 2976 Please halt the implementation of the PA Core Standards. These are little more than another federal mandate imposed upon us and our children. The cost of their implementation is unclear but most assuredly will by steep. The Pioneer Institute estimates the cost at \$650 million. Can the state and school districts afford this? The rigor of the standards has been debunked by many educators. These standards along with the Common Core have never been fully implemented anywhere with success. Why are we hastily adopting them without a known track record? Kentucky adopted the math and ELA standards and saw their students proficiency drop in these subject from 70th percentile to the 40s. This is hardly successful. There has been and continues to be a growing backlash by parents against Common Core which we all know the PA Core Standards are similar to. It is time to put the breaks on the implementation of these standards. They are bad for our children, and Pennsylvania tax payers. Coleen Carignan, MD, Pittsburgh Catholics Against Common Core

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Thursday, October 31, 2013 3:55 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: steve

Last Name: zingerman

Address:

Email: steveiez1@yahoo.com

Subject: public schools.

Message:

Why are private, Catholic and charter schools all about educating students to the highest degree, when public schools seem to be only interested in teacher contracts and getting kids out the door?

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Thursday, October 31, 2013 4:12 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Charles

Last Name: Maas

Address: 585 Niagara Dr. Pleasant Mount PA 18453

Email: cmaas@nep.net

Subject: Common Core.

Message:

No to Common Core. It will dumb down the curriculum and lower standards. Instead of teaching critical thinking, they will be teaching to the lowest common denominator, basically teaching to the tests. We do not need the Feds to decide what they want our children to learn. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been educating our children very well for over 100 years without the Federal gov't deciding the curriculum they want taught. Say no! Thank you.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Friday, November 01, 2013 6:42 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: pam

Last Name: hartman

Address:

Email: mrsjeh@verizon.net

Subject: end Common Core

703 NOV -5 THE IS: 19

Message:

The Common Core curricula expensive, it is gathering info on our kids and without their parents knowledge, and it tells teachers how to teach all in the same manner. Educate children with good basics. You do not let progressive educators dictate narrow workforce programming via our U.S. tax dollars. We are a unique country with unique individuals, that is why a good solid basic education is all kids need to create and thrive on their own. Bill Gates and Steve Jobs did not grow up learning on an expensive iPad, they created great things. Set children's minds free, and stop letting manical "educators" over complicate our public schools. End he funding for Common Core. thank you

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Friday, November 01, 2013 7:57 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Charlotte

Last Name: Chadwick

Address:

Email: charlichad16@gmail.com

Subject: Common Core

Message:

As a new mother with a child starting school next year, I gave thought long and hard about sending her to the school in which her father attended. A school with great programs, teachers and curricilum. Lately, I've come across CCSS and can no longer bring myself to let her attend public school or our local private school. I believe it is our God given right to express our creativity and be free to to express ourselves in a respectful manner. I know our school system needs some fixing to better our country but I do not believe this is the route to take. Too many boundaries are being crossed and privacy is being invaded. I didn't agree wirh No Child Left Behind and I was a highschool student at the time and did not feel I was being challenged or learning enough. I really hope you think about the world changing decision you are making and listen to the voices of the parents who care about our community and the future of America. Thank you.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Friday, November 01, 2013 8:28 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: John

Last Name: Dressman

Address: 619 Stamford Drive, Greensburg, PA15601

Email: jodressm@aol.com

Subject: common core

Message:

Another goverment take-over of our schools. It wants to dumb down the curriculum standards, take away local control, col;lect personal data on every student, and increase our taxes to pay for it. WHAT COUNTRY OUR WE LIVING IN USSR.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Friday, November 01, 2013 8:49 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Richard

Last Name: Brunner

Address: 407 S. Bonsall Rd.

Email: rabat407@comcast.net

Subject: DC Can Keep Common Core

Message:

Common core has many problems and it is a waste of time, since schools can "opt out" of it. Here, Pennsylvania has "opted out" and our local school district (CASD) administration, has also "opted out". So, what is the point? It also stinks of government in DC telling us what to do, as if we aren't capable of making the decision ourselves. Sounds just like Obamacare insanity with DC telling us which health insurance plan we must buy, since we're too stupid to choose one correctly ourselves. By forcing their agenda on us they also force their activist viewpoints and political indoctrination on our children who need to be protected from this intrusion. The news is full of instances of this. Our children need to be able to grow up without having activist gay or lesbian rights and union "educational" indoctrination forced on them. This is shameful. It's time for DC to get out of education and this mess is the result. States and their school districts should handle our schools locally. We can make decisions for ourselves, and don't need DC's help. Thanks, but no thanks DC.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Friday, November 01, 2013 1:20 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Sullivan

Address:

Email: mrepko@inbox.com

Subject: No Common Core

Message:

As a grandparent I do not want my children exposed to un-American ideas and biases as this Common Core program eliminates local and parental control of K-12 math and English curriculum. Classic literature is being replaced with informational texts that promote the idea of unions and world community, with low standards. Individual achievements and success will be lost as our children grow into adults. American values will be a thing of the past as these children are taught with political bias and history that replaces facts with ideology. As parents and grandparents who have been blessed with American freedom, it is our responsibility to insure our children have the same experience.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Friday, November 01, 2013 5:27 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Anne

Last Name: Hurtt

Address: 8 Fox Run Road

Email: Chester Springs, PA 19425

Subject: Common Core

Message:

I was very angry to see that my 11th grader has common core math and literature/vocabulary this year! A major reason why we are sending him to Catholic School is to get away from the "dumbing down" of students and "indoctrinating" them with "liberal lies". How could our REPUBLICAN governor have approved this curriculum? I'm absolutely LIVID about this!

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Friday, November 01, 2013 9:17 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: jason

Last Name: eby

Address: chambersburg pa 17202

Email: twinrental@gmail.com

Subject: common core

Message:

My fellow countrymen we have a situation faceing us that could destroy our relationship with our children. It already has destroyed our educational system. If you senators and you representatives wont stand against common core we the people will vote you out of office and see to our own childrens education

a a m

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Saturday, November 02, 2013 9:58 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Arlene

Last Name: Peters

Address: 39 Paddock Dr. New Hope Pa

Email: Pollpete@aol.com

Subject: Common core

Message:

I oppose to regulation 6 -326. Common Core is not what we want for our children. . It must be stopped Arlene.

Peters

200 NOV -5 PM 2:

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Saturday, November 02, 2013 1:20 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: William

Last Name: Kearney

Address: 628 Whittaker Pl Lansdale, PA

Email: wrkmajor@comcast.net

Subject: Common Core

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Message:

Please note my strong objection to implementing Common Core (Regulation #6-326). Education should be controlled at the local level (at worst, state level) - never by a federal bureaucracy. This is an insidious plan to accumulate date on school children and determine their future careers.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Saturday, November 02, 2013 1:20 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Patrick

Last Name: Kelly

Address: 5520 Ridge Road, Slatington, PA 18080

Email: info@thekellyfamilyfarm.com

Subject: Repeal Common Core

Message:

To Whom It May Concern: I am extremely concerned about the implementation of Common Core in my children's school. Common Core is a federally mandated guideline/curriculum that every public and private school in the state is required to follow. It completely undermines local parental control over school. Since it is being forced upon private schools as well, there is no way to avoid this curriculum. Furthermore, the curriculum is extremely poor, especially in math. Teachers obsessively teach to the PSSA test and nothing else. This year we actually removed our children from public school and are home schooling them for the sole purpose of being able to work around Common Core (PA home schoolers also have to follow Common Core). If you told me 3 years ago that we would be home schooling our kids I would have said you were crazy but here we are. It really is that bad. There are also privacy concerns regarding the federal government as well as outside private agencies having access to our children's grades, information, etc. There needs to be an option for parents to opt out of this terrible program and make local school boards the decision makers again - rather than just the vehicle used to figure out how to pay/enforce what is forced upon them from Washington. It goes without saying that political candidates' position on Common Core is first and foremost when determining who both my wife and myself vote for in all upcoming elections. Vigilantly Paying Attention, Pat and Kara Kelly Lehigh County

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Saturday, November 02, 2013 7:37 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



Independent Regulatory Review Commission

A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Barbara

Last Name: Sudell

Address: 4 Cornerstone Court, Doylestown, PA 18901

Email: BarbaraSudell@comcast.net

Subject: Common Core

Message:

I am opposed to the use of Common Core in our schools for several reasons. 1. It removes educational choices from the parents and state and put them in the hands of the federal government. PA should be opposed for the same reason. 2. The federal government is taking money from PA taxpayers and using that money as a weapon to control education. It is basically bribing the states by saying "do what we want if you want any money." 3. It takes educational choices away from teachers, who are in a better position to determine which students need what aides. Teachers in our area are very unhappy with Common Core. Many are talking about retiring as soon as possible to get out of teaching. 4. We do not want the government controlling and brainwashing our children. Government is inherently bad, and our government is becoming too controlling. 5. It violates the Constitution. Any powers not given to the federal government goes to the States and/or the People.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Saturday, November 02, 2013 7:40 PM

To:

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: David

Last Name: Pfeiffer

Address: PO Box 131, Lederach, Pa 19450

Email: dave.pfeiffer@verizon.net

Subject: Comman Core

Message:

I am opposed to Common Core. Local school administrators and parents are quite capable of setting standards for local children. We do not need a big government bureaucrat dictating what can best be done locally. I am opposed to Regulation #6-326 and any other form of Common Core dictates. Dave Pfeiffer

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 7:06 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Irvin

Last Name: Coleman

Address: 155 Lake Cliff Dr.

Email: <u>icoleman2@verizon.net</u>

Subject: Common Core Cost

Message:

As a PA school tax payer I would like to know who much the proposed Common Core regulations are going to cost me. Secondly I would like to know what the real effect is going to be on public education in PA.

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From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 7:09 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Marie

Last Name: Schultz

Address: 522 Parkway Drive

Email: melena29@comcast.net

Subject: NO to Common Core

Message:

The more I learn about this curriculum, the more I fear for my grandchildren and my country. No government has the right to usurp my privilege and responsibility to educate my children and grandchildren. This must be stopped in it's entirety.

53

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 7:20 AM

To:

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Marie

Last Name: Schultz

Address: 522 Parkway Drive

Email: melena29@comcast.net

Subject: NO to Common Core

Message:

Reference IRRC No. 2976 Dear Mr. Sumner, Please put a stop to the implementation of Pa Core Standards immediately. First and foremost, no one can determine how much it will cost. Our school districts are already plagued with budget problems and is trying to deal with the imminent pension crisis. Pa Core Standards are nothing more than another unfunded mandate. No one can confirm how much the implementation will cost let alone remediation. How can we implement something without knowing how much it will cost? This is senseless and dangerous. Further, Pa Core Standards will bring on additional testing that is a public health concern. Over testing our students is creating unnecessary stress with no proof of outcome. Children as young as 2nd grade are getting physically ill from the pressure these tests are creating. As the children get older, the stakes are higher and the psychological and physical consequences are even greater. There is a huge movement against high stakes testing here in Pennsylvania and with good reason. High stakes testing affects the wellbeing of our students. Opting out is becoming a movement. This is and will create an additional cost that has not been considered. Pa Core Standards are bad for Pennsylvanian students and the tax payer. Please stop this unfunded and unfounded regulation. Sincerely, Marie E. Schultz

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 8:11 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Gary

Last Name: Morella

Address:

Email: stlouisix@msn.com

Subject: Regulation #6 – 326: Academic Standards and Assessment and IRRC # 2976

Message:

Clarification is needed that the state standards are applicable only to public schools and do not apply to private, religious or homeschooled students so that their constitutional rights are not violated; else you will be facing many lawsuits in regard to the educational travesty that is common core which is not education at all but rather Marxist Socialist indoctrination into that which any responsible parent would never want their children to be exposed to. Clarification is needed that the state will not require school entities to utilize a statewide curriculum or statewide reading lists meeting the reqs of the The pro-homosexual, anti-Christian Southern Morally Impoverished Lawless Center which has contributed to this effort. Clarification is needed that Pennsylvania will not participate as a governing state in any consortium for the development of a national assessment. Clarification is needed that PDE will not expand the collection of student data. Finally, per the many exposes on the fraud that is common core or anything masquerading as common core as described in a myriad of articles like this one September 19, 2013 Rotten to the core By Joan Swirsky

http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/swirsky/130919 which describes in detail what common core is and what its diabolical unconstitutional un-American aims are, I have a question for you. Why would any sane American want their children exposed to such pure unadulterated rot that guarantees only one thing - we will have a generation of the morally and educationally dumbed-down by an order-of-magntitude? I leave you with this final thought from Joan Swirsky "In July, the state of New York announced the results of its first tests based on the Common Core: The region hasn't been this battered since Superstorm Sandy. Just 26 percent of students in third through eighth grade passed the English exam, and only 30 percent passed the math test. In one Harlem school, just seven percent of students received passing scores in English, and 10 percent in math. We've gone from No Child Left Behind to Well-Just-About-Every-Child-Left-Behind ...progress of a kind. If 'learned helplessness' is the Common Core's goal, it's a stunning success.' Businessman George Ball" Whosever is responsible for attempting to foist this pure unmitigated rot upon the students of the commonwealth of

2013 NOV -5 FM 12: 2

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Pennsylvania is owed no obedience across the Commonwealth!	whatsover, and d	eserves the contemp	pt of people of fait	h and right reason
		2		

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 8:51 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Edward

Last Name: Moorehead

Address: 334 Quarry Road

Email: patriot6@comcast.net

Subject: Common Core Education?

Message:

From what I read about Common Core is that it no more than Govt control of education. I believe Parents and Educators should have the final say in what is taught and not the Federal or State Governments. Parents know what is best for their children, no the Govt.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

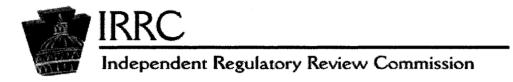
Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 9:15 AM

To:

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Barbara

Last Name: Rose

Address: 513 Leedom Street

Email: savro@verizon.net

Subject: Regulation #6 – 326: Academic Standards and Assessment and IRRC # 2976

Message:

I object to the Pennsylvania Department of Education expansion of data collecting on our future citizens. This creates a huge opportunity for abuse. I believe that the state standards should be applicable to public schools only and do not have the right to impose its standards to private, religious or homeschooled students. This country is founded on diversity, not on a brain washed common ideology especially with regard to sexuality, sexual orientation (real or imagined), and ideas concerning when life begins and ends.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 9:58 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Em

Last Name: Shaak

Address: 910 Charles St

Email: emshaak@gmail.com

Subject: Stop Common Core

Message:

Diversity of education and curriculum is what stimulates intellectual competition. My three children have greatly increased the test scores in 2 PA school districts from being educated by Nebraskans, Iowans, homeschooled and a private catholic school. The Mechanicsburg School District has already fallen short in education our children in Math at which point we have had great expense getting tutors. Common Core offers even less of an intelligent education than does the failed every-day-math currently in place.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 4:23 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: lynne

Last Name: miller

Address: 305 Allison Drive

Email: lamiller62@gmail.com

Subject: Common Core

Message:

I would like my testimony to stand AGAINST Common Core! I do NOT want my tax dollars supporting this curriculum dumb down and increased federal gov't invasion via the education system.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 5:12 PM

To:

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: James

Last Name: Swisher

Address:

Email: Shamdeal@gmail.com

Subject: Common Core

Message:

Common Core, hereafter referred to as simply CC, is a joke at best and a threat to our children's education and futures! CC is a disaster and a disgrace! We can not continue producing unintelligent young adults from our schools! We will quickly turn into a third World nation! Stop CC and remove it!

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 5:42 PM

To:

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Mrs. Monica

Last Name: Gutman

Address: 1129 Wellington Circle, laurys Station, PA 18059

Email: 4mjgutman@gmail.com

Subject: Regulation #6 – 326: Academic Standards and Assessment and IRRC # 2976."

Message: Stop porn in common core!!!!!

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Sunday, November 03, 2013 9:43 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Eva

Last Name: Gonzalez

Address:

Email: emg492@hotmail.com

Subject: Stop Common Core in Pennsylvania

Message:
Common Core threatens to dumb-down curriculum standards, take away local control, and collect personal data on every student and their families. Parents and local school boards are the ones who should make the decisions regarding our children- they are not children of the state. We don't need or want any more data collection on usthe NSA is already over reaching their authority at the federal level and we don't need any more spying on us at the state & federal levels. Additionally, we don't need any more tax dollars taken out of our hard-earned money - especially for something we vehemently oppose!!! Hear us!!

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From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Monday, November 04, 2013 10:20 AM

To:

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: jennifer

Last Name: warner

Address:

Email: jlpwarner@yahoo.com

Subject: common core

Message:

Hi, I'm writing today in opposition of Common Core in PA. As an elementary educator and a parent of two children who have been both homeschooled and enrolled in private education, I strongly object to having more government regulation of my children's education. I know what's best for my children, not the government. School curriculums are already being dumbed down - they don't need to be dumbed down even more to meet the requirements of Common Core. I pay too much in taxes already - I don't want to pay even more taxes for a program I don't support. And I am vehemently against the government collecting any more personal information about me and my family. I have heard from colleagues in NY who hate Common Core and are pushing to have it repealed. While it may have honorable intentions, I do not feel it is right for Pennsylvania. Thank you!

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Monday, November 04, 2013 11:01 AM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Dianne

Last Name: McGuigan

Address:

Email: dimcguigan@comcast.net

Subject: Common Core

Message:

We need to get back to the basics of Reading, Writing and math. Common Core is a bad idea. Teaching children only what they need to know to answer preset test questions is not education. It is dumbing down our children and wasting tax dollars. Please do not pass this law.

Ñ

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Monday, November 04, 2013 2:15 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Pamela

Last Name: Messenger

Address:

Email: pam messenger@yahoo.com

Subject: final-form regulation #6-326

Message:

4 November 2013 Independent Regulatory Review Commission 333 Market Street, 14th floor Harrisburg, PA 17101 Email: iirc@iiTC.state.pa.us I am writing to express my strong opposition for final-form regulation #6-326 (Academic Standards and Assessments) that adopts the Pennsylvania Core Standards in English and math and aligned assessments, including Keystone Exams. I oppose the Chapter 4 revisions and ask that the Keystone graduation requirement be rescinded for the following reasons: This program is untested and was accepted and voted on by an unaccountable, unelected Federal officials board. It was not brought before our elected officials, our state legislature, and there was no empirical evidence presented that this change would improve educational outcomes. No fiscal analysis was performed prior to our state signing onto it, and none to date. What is the estimated cost for implementing this untested program? The "one-size fits all" approach of the State Board of Education when it comes to the Keystone Exams is detrimental to students and staff alike. For students who already are successful according to every other meaningful, objective measure (PSAT, SAT, ACT and AP exams) the Keystone Exams offer no benefit. For the taxpayers, the costs of these tests and any required remedial activities far exceed any value to any district. This legislation does not allow local schools to discern what is needed for each child in their community. Guided by "local control" our school district in Wyomissing retains the ability to choose curriculum instruction and assessment tools that benefit our students and meet our community's high standards. The Wyomissing community expects that the students graduating from our school are college and work-ready regardless of their race, income level, abilities or aspirations. The culture of high expectations in our community, combined with the skill and dedication of our staff, prepares virtually all our students for college and careers. With a 98% graduation rate of which 97% choose to attend advanced schooling, Wyomissing is obviously already offering a rigorous curriculum. Why not look at a variety of successful Pennsylvania public schools in the state and see how their ideas can be implemented in other schools in the state? As a parent, school and community volunteer, I see many children every day that need academic learning support, I also see many academically high achieving students who could use additional academic

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challenges to support their learning needs. This proposed legislation does not support either group's needs. It only requires that students be taught to certain test standards and pass a test. It frustrates those who have difficulty learning and testing and it frustrates the learning abilities of the academically proficient and advanced. It does not teach them how to think critically. It is important that every one of our young people has the opportunity to graduate from high school with the strong academic foundation necessary to go on to postsecondary education or the workforce. It is unrealistic to assume that every one of them is going to actually have the same academic abilities that one curriculum standard can be applied. In order to produce students with the skills to be successful, you need a diverse program that makes allowances for many different learning abilities; this legislation does provide this. I respectfully ask the Independent Regulatory Review Commission to vote no on the final-form regulation #6-326 and Keystone Exams and ask that the Keystone graduation requirement be rescinded. Sincerely, Pamela Messenger

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Monday, November 04, 2013 3:20 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Karren

Last Name: Turner

Address:

Email: turner.johnandkarren@gmail.com

Subject: Regulation #6 – 326: Academic Standards and Assessment and IRRC # 2976

Message:

The problems are numerous and intrusive AND no cost analysis has been done. Besides taking autonomy away from parents and teachers and local communities other problems include: porn in the curriculum, the intrusive gathering of personal information about students and their parents distributed to who knows who, and the "dumbing down" of standards especially in the math and English curricula. Even the way these Academic Standards were forced upon our state, "You must agree to it before you see what is in it to receive federal funding" was wrong and a HUGE red flag. We do NOT want more federal control in our schools. The parents, teachers, and local communities have been given that responsibility. These Academic Standards do NOT allow input or correction from the teachers or parents. This is BAD POLICY.

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Monday, November 04, 2013 4:06 PM

To:

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Kathleen

Last Name: Slalley

Address:

Email: ksteve03@yahoo.com

Subject: Pa common core

Message:

With a \$650 million dollar price tag, Pennsylvanians can not afford to implement a program that half the state doesn't want & that half the schools do not need. Pennsylvanians are hurting & things are about to get even worse as more & more find them selves unemployed, underemployed & many now without healthcare. We do not have the money to be experimenting with untested programs. Stop the madness, we are out of money!

From:

ContactForm@state.pa.us

Sent:

Monday, November 04, 2013 9:11 PM

To:

Help

Subject:

IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Elaine

Last Name: Gehman

Address: 318 Rickert Road, Sellersville, PA 18960

Email: vanlor@bellatlantic.net

Subject: Reject Common Core

Message:

I strongly urge you to reject Common Core as part of PA curriculum. It will further destroy our educational goals.