

**Yohn, Cheryl**

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**From:** ContactForm@state.pa.us  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 10, 2013 10:10 AM  
**To:** Help  
**Subject:** IRRC Website - New Message



A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

**First Name:** Rhonda

**Last Name:** Giddings

**Company:** GIDDINGS ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE, LLC

**Email:** [giddingsacupuncture@msn.com](mailto:giddingsacupuncture@msn.com)

**Subject:** PA testing

**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 well-being 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. Questions that must be answered before any movement forward: How much is this going to cost? Stop it until we know. How will it be funded? Will this lead to tax increases in local districts? Don't approve unfunded mandates. Why is this being forced on every school district without testing to prove that it will work? Every school district is already financially strapped, don't add to their problems. Sincerely, Rhonda M. Giddings, AP, MAc, LAc, LMT

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