

Good Afternoon,

My name is Briana Bays. I have 3 school-aged children in the Shenendehowa school district I am an advocate for children, and a critic of Common Core.

I am here today to say that it is NOT an implementation problem, it is partially a testing problem, however, the bottom line is that the problem is Common Core. There is NO data to support Common Core and the claims of it being a higher set of standards.

Before NYS accepted the RTTT Funding, we were in the process of developing our own higher standards. Those “lost standards” were quickly abandoned when the federal funding was bribed to the states. Shenendehowa received \$47,811 over three years from RTTT to implement the mandates, including Common Core. From the Shenendehowa School website “it is indeed costing the district significantly more to comply with the corresponding mandates that all schools must now comply with since the NY Board of Regents has adopted said mandates.”

As a parent, I want and expect higher standards. Common Core is NOT a higher set of standards. I encourage the task force to scrap Common Core and to go back to the lost standards that NY was in the process of developing.

Thank you for taking the time to listen; however I must say that I am concerned. It is all too reminiscent of Commissioner John King’s “listening tour.” Over two years ago John King cancelled several stops including one at Shenendehowa. Here we are two years later, NOTHING has been done to change the state of education in NY. The Regents, NYSED, and the Governor have all failed the children of NYS. Seeing a toolkit on the NYSED website showing school districts how to combat Parents Refusing NYS Testing, shows me that there is no sincere listening taking place. NYSED wants parents to be quiet, but we will not be silenced. It is time to start taking action. Changing testing manufacturers, claims of reduced testing time is not sufficient change. Parents want to see real change; we want to see Common Core removed from our schools. We want higher standards where children are

challenged. Common Core is a rigid, one size fits all, copy-written set of standards. Common Core cannot be changed, the mere fact that it is copy written prevents it from being changed. In closing I want you to know that, you, the Common Core Task Force, have an opportunity to change the future. I hope that you make changes for the better, and do not allow the disastrous Common Core to continue in NYS.

I am here to request a full repeal of Common Core in New York.

Don't fix Common Core, End it.