

Parents are not just outraged over the tests. We are outraged over the whole common core agenda which includes invasive data mining loss of local control, inferior untested standards as well as the secretive high stakes testing.

Please do not patronize us by explaining how common core are high standards, we know they are not. Please do not insult us by using meaningless rhetoric such as "Preparing our children for the 21st century". We know this is simply another way of saying "hooking up your kids all day to be data-mined."

We know none of these practices pushed by the common core agenda to improve outcomes are backed by any research. We know this is simply a way to monetize the school day. And, please, if the state dept. of ed. is going to claim these reforms ARE backed by research then have those studies and field tests available to us NOW.

Please forgive our cynicism of these common core events, we've been to quite a few and understand they are usually just window dressing to give the appearance of listening. But if you really are concerned about our children, I have a few suggestions.

1.) Our children need solid privacy protections from the invasive data mining now that FERPA has been gutted.

2.) Adhere by the Child safe school guidelines for wireless technology. The issue of wireless radiation is real and we should err on the side of caution where the safety of our children is concerned.

<http://www.thechildsafeschool.org/pdf/safer-guidelines.pdf>

3.) Technology use in schools should be restricted to teaching technology skills. We should not be using technology for data mining or behavior modification purposes - Our children deserve privacy and respect.

4.) Eliminate high stakes testing and all other government testing. Our tax dollars should not be used to finance the FED's intrusion into our schools or to line the pockets of the testing industry.

5.) Get rid of common core completely. Don't insult us with a name change. We know what these standards look like. We will not be fooled. There are other less expensive research based standards to turn to instead.

6.) With all the money saved from abandoning the common core agenda there will be funding available to those districts in need for smaller class sizes and additional resources. We should help schools that are in trouble, not punish them.

I just want to add that parents will never stop fighting for their kids. We will never set aside the best interests of our children for the political interests of government and the financial interests of corporations.

Thank you for your time.

Debbie Brandewiede