



New York State Assembly
Assemblyman Will Barclay
Assembly Robert C. Oaks
Assemblyman Gary D. Finch

Education Forum
Assemblyman Ed Ra
Assemblyman Al Graf
Assemblyman Dave McDonough

November 12, 2013

Dear Parents, Teachers, School Administrators, School Board Members, and Concerned Residents:

Due to the recent overwhelming reactions and feedback regarding Common Core, we will be holding a forum dealing with concerns expressed by educators, parents and other stakeholders regarding the implementation of the new curriculum based on Common Core standards. We are pleased to invite you to participate at our **Central New York forum on November 18 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Charles W. Baker High School Auditorium, 29 East Oneida Street, Baldwinsville.**

Some of the topics we will be covering include:

1. Reactions to the new education standards being promoted by the President and National Governors Association, known as the Common Core. Are there components being left out of the new standards? Are there unnecessary ones?
2. Was the implementation of new curriculum based on Common Core standards handled appropriately? What can be implemented to improve the transition to the new curriculum?
3. How has the new testing associated with Common Core affected students' attitudes toward learning? How has it affected their instruction time and the approach of classroom teachers?
4. What challenges have been presented to local school district administrators, curriculum chairs and principals as a result of the implementation of Common Core?
5. Are there concerns about the safety, privacy and access to demographic, enrollment and state assessment data on schoolchildren kept by InBloom on the New York Education Data Portal?

It is our intention to hear from as many participants as possible, but time constraints may require that those wishing to provide oral testimony provide written testimony only. **We will hear from educational officials first, then from parents.** If you would like to speak, please sign up on the evening of the event and bring 10 copies of your testimony, including your contact information, to the forum. All written testimony that is submitted will be included in the record and summary that will be prepared at the conclusion of the proceedings.

If you are able to attend, please contact the Assembly Minority Office of Public Affairs at 518-455-5073 or minpaff@assembly.state.ny.us by November 18. Members of the media will also be invited to this important event. **Due to time constraints, not every parent may be able to speak.**

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Will Barclay
Assembly District 120

Gary D. Finch
Assembly District 126

Robert C. Oaks
Assembly District 130

Ed Ra
Assembly District 19
Ranking Minority Member,
Education Committee

Alfred C. Graf
Assembly District 5
Education Committee Member