





# The Loss of Idaho's Educational Sovereignty

TOP 10 Common Core

Myths vs. Facts



## Myth #1

Common Core (CC) is a state-led initiative.

## Fact

The CC standards were initiated by private interests in Washington, DC, without any representation from the states.

NGA, CCSSO, Achieve, Gates Foundation



## **Myth #2**

The federal government is not involved in the Common Core scheme.

## **Fact**

The US Department of Education (USED) was deeply involved in the meetings that led to creation of Common Core.



## **Myth #3**

States that adopted CC did so voluntarily, without federal coercion.

## **Fact**

**Incentives and Threats:**

**Race to the Top \$**

**Waiver from parts of NCLB**

**Title I \$**



## **Myth #4**

Under Common Core, the states will still control their standards.

## **Fact**

CC standards must be accepted word for word.

Cannot change or delete anything.

States may add 15% of additional content (which won't be covered on the national tests).



## **Myth #5**

Common Core is only a set of standards, not curriculum; states will still control their curriculum.

## **Fact**

**Standards drive curriculum.**

**2 testing consortia - \$\$ from Dept. of Ed.**

**Grant applications - use \$\$ to develop curriculum models.**

**Tests drive curriculum**



## Myth #6

The Common Core standards are rigorous and will make our children “college-ready.”

## Fact

As one drafter of the CC math standards admitted, CC is designed to prepare students for a non-selective two-year community college, not a four-year university.



CC math standards will place our students about two years behind their counterparts in high-performing countries.

CC's English language arts standards consist of "empty skill sets . . . [that] weaken the basis of literary and cultural knowledge needed for authentic college coursework."

Changes American model of classical education to resemble a **European model**.

De-emphasizes the study of creative literature and places students on "tracks" (college vs. vocational) at an early age.



## **Myth #7**

The Common Core standards are  
“internationally benchmarked.”

## **Fact**

**Validation Committee was given no  
info. on how CC stacked up against  
other high-achieving countries.**

**No longer claims**

**“internationally benchmarked” –  
now “informed by” other countries.**



## **Myth #8**

Common Core Standards are evidence-based.

## **Fact**

There is no evidence supporting the effectiveness of the standards.

Common Core has never been piloted.



## **Myth #9**

We need common standards to be able to compare our students' performance to that of students in other states.

## **Fact**

**Elementary/middle school-**

**Nat. Assessment of Educational Progress**

**(NAEP)**

**High school -**

**SAT and ACT.**



## Myth #10

We need common standards to help students who move from state to state.

## Fact

<2%

It is nonsensical to bind our entire education system in a straightjacket to benefit such a small number of students.



# Things Common Core Promoters Are Afraid To Mention...

Cost

SLDS

p-20 w

ACT and SAT realigned



# What YOU Can Do to Help

- Learn about it and Sign the Petition at [www.IdahoansForLocalEducation.com](http://www.IdahoansForLocalEducation.com)
- “Like” us Facebook (Idahoans Against Common Core *and* Idahoans for Local Education)
- Talk about it with your neighbors, co-workers, friends and family
- Write “Letters to the Editor” in local online and traditional media
- Contact your state legislators and let them know you want Common Core removed from Idaho