

STOP Common Core in New York State



Our children are
NOT Common

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What is Common Core?

- Common Core is a **privately funded**, federally endorsed nationwide reformation of our educational system.
- It is a set of nationalized standards, curriculum and assessments.

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How was Common Core created?

- American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)
- National Governors' Association (NGA) & Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) in partnership with Achieve, Inc.
- ARRA funded Race to the Top **\$4.35 billion**

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Who is behind the Common Core Standards?

- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**
- David Coleman, Director of the College Board and the “**Architect of the CCS**”
- **Arne Duncan**, United States Secretary of Education
- Private Special Interest Groups

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Brief overview of the Common Core Standards

- Math
- English Language Arts (ELA)
- Science
- Social Studies
- Sexuality Standards

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Math

- “One of the most important things we needed to deliver was a focused, coherent picture of **math— with fewer topics in each grade accomplished** in greater depth instead of the mile wide, inch deep approach we often see today.” – Jason Zimba, creator of the Math Common Core Standards.
- Under Common Core Math, standard algorithms are replaced with “new math” approaches, creating confusion in young learners.

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| Math Situation | Evidence and how to solve: |
|---|--|
| <p>There were 21 tests on the table. The teacher placed 16 more on the table. How many tests are on the table?</p> | <p>$21 + 16 =$ evidence of increasing (+)</p> $\begin{array}{r} 20 + 1 \\ 10 + 6 \\ \hline 30 + 7 = 37 \text{ tests total} \end{array}$ |
| <p>There were 24 eggs waiting to be cooked. 12 of them fell on the floor and broke. How many were left?</p> | <p>$24 - 12 =$ evidence of decreasing (-)</p> $\begin{array}{r} 20 + 4 \\ - 10 + 2 \\ \hline 10 + 2 = 12 \text{ eggs left} \end{array}$ |
| <p>The teacher had 17 non-fiction books in the library bin. She also had 32 fiction books there. How many more fiction books did she have than non-fiction?</p> | <p>evidence of comparing (C)</p> <p>A number line is drawn with arrows at both ends. The number 17 is marked and labeled '(N.F.)'. The number 32 is marked and labeled '(F.)'. A horizontal bracket spans from 17 to 32, with the text '= 15 more' written above it. The number 27 is also marked on the line between 17 and 32.</p> |

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English Language Arts (ELA)

- “The **wisest move** all states could make to ensure that students learn to read, understand, and use the English language appropriately before they graduate from high school is **first to abandon Common Core’s ‘standards’...**”
Dr. Sandra Stotsky, Professor of Education Reform, Arkansas University.
- Under Common Core, our children’s exposure to classic literature will be 85% in the younger grades and in the higher grades it decreases to 15%. The remainder of that reading percentage will be informational texts such as “Invasive Plant Species of California.”

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Next Generation Science

- “The Framework **abandons the scientific method** and converts science into an enterprise that rules by consensus. This so-called 'consensus' then purports to speak for all scientists. **This would seem to convert it from an enterprise that investigates into one that seeks to make social policy.** We know that many scientists disagree with this move. This is important as the scientific method holds the definition of scientific knowledge to a high standard.... Rather than having knowledge defined by tested evidence, it appears to be defined by what some group of scientists say it is.” -- Citizens for Objective Public Education
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasize the **doctrine of environmentalism** which exalts nature above the needs of humanity.

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Social Studies

- From the Introduction of The College, Career and Civic Life (C3) Frameworks for Social Studies State Standards:

“Now more than ever, students need the intellectual power to recognize societal problems; ask good questions and develop robust investigations into them; consider possible solutions and consequences; **separate evidence-based claims from parochial opinions**; and communicate and act upon what they learn. And most importantly, they must possess the capability and commitment to repeat that process as long as is necessary. Young people need strong tools for and methods of clear, disciplined thinking in order to traverse successfully the worlds of college, career, and civic life.”

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National Sexuality Standards

- Incorporates learning strategies, teaching methods and materials that are culturally inclusive.
- Focuses on specific behavioral outcomes.
- **Identity (ID)** addresses several fundamental aspects of people's understanding of who they are.
- Begin discussing bullying by the 2nd grade. The end of 5th grade a student needs to be able to explain what homosexuality is and why it's not a bad thing and shouldn't be singled out. 8th graders should be able to describe how to correctly use a condom and advocate for respecting all people. 12th graders need to know all of this and the laws surrounding pregnancy, abortion, adoption.

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What is the State Longitudinal Database System?


- The P20(preschool – age 20) Workforce Tracking collects and keeps data on your children from “cradle to career”.
- Family Education Rights and Privacy Act was altered in 2011 to include 11 different “circumstances” that student information could be ***shared without parental knowledge or consent.***

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A photograph of a woman and a young child walking away from the camera down a school hallway. The woman is on the left, wearing a striped sweater and dark pants. The child is on the right, wearing a dark shirt and pants, and carrying a backpack. The hallway has a polished floor that reflects the figures. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

“If I have a problem with something my son is learning in class, I can't go to the school district, I can't even go to the state anymore. It's out of our hands.”

**COMMON CORE
EDUCATION
STANDARDS PUT
DISTANT
BUREAUCRATS
BEFORE PARENTS.**

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Common Core Costs to New York:

- **\$177.2 million per year** ongoing maintenance and upkeep of technology
"Over a typical standards time horizon of seven (7) years, we project Common Core implementation costs will total approximately **\$15.8 billion** across participating states."

These cost projections over seven years do not include:

- **\$1.2 billion** for the new assessments
- **\$5.3 billion** for professional development (i.e. teacher training)
- **\$2.5 billion** for textbooks and instructional material
- **\$6.9 billion** for technology infrastructure and support

("The National Costs of Aligning the States and Localities to the Common Core" - The Pioneer Institute)

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Common Core Myths vs. Facts

- Myth: Developed by teachers.
- Fact: Names and sources never provided.
- Myth: Standards are evidence based.
- Fact: They're brand new. Never tested. There is no evidence.
- Myth: Not a step towards nationalized standards.
- Fact: Obama's DoE has virtually forced states to adopt or they won't receive the funding they need. Accept or starve.
- Myth: Helps our children to be college and career ready.
- Fact: Experts say kids will be a full two years behind at graduation under the Common Core Standards.

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What Can You Do?

- Talk to whoever will listen around you.
- Attend town halls, school board meetings, PTA, etc.
- Contact representatives, senators, etc. via phones and email.
- Contact local newspapers, etc.
- Join Stop Common Core in New York State via FB
- Keep asking questions!