

21 Adams Road  
Ridgefield, CT 06877  
March 10, 2014

The Education Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 3100  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Committee Members,

It is disappointing that you have chosen to hold this meeting at a time that prevents stakeholders...students, parents, and teachers...from having an opportunity to weigh in on these critical matters. It merely gives the illusion that you are sort of listening to the citizens you serve. A "Public Hearing" should actually include the public.

The Common Core and its hasty implementation lacks common sense. We have just emerged from the wreckage of No Child Left Behind and Race to the Top. What have we learned from those experiences? Not much! Before we even assess the damage those programs inflicted, we are being tsunamied again. This time by another group of education whisperers from the corporate world who claim to know what ails our schools.

It's time to stall the hasty enforcement of these new initiatives and engage in the kind of dialogue that should precede any meaningful educational innovation. People support what they help create.

Sincerely,  
Christine Zarkowsky