

As long as I've been listening to politicians such as the Governor and the Commissioner of Education of Connecticut they have been hammering away at the idea that schools are underperforming. This is only true with urban districts. Governor Malloy and Commissioner Pryor have been using their favorite scary words to bully the legislature and people of Connecticut.

The Governor and Commissioner compare American test scores with ridiculous places like Finland and Korea. Neither of these countries mainstream special education like in the United States. Most special ed students take standardized test in the U.S., so their scores are reflected in our averages. Other countries are not "melting pots" either. Their population reflects a less diverse point of view and ethnic diversity. Many countries do not let their entire student populations continue to the high school level. Comparing U.S. test scores is not a legitimate argument for change.

The Governor's plan for teacher evaluation is equally ridiculous. It is cumbersome and does not consider individual student needs, cognitive development, or local environment into a student's ability to learn. This alone should enough to kill the Governor's plan. Also, consider that it will do nothing to aid teacher's in teaching. If anything, districts will have to hire more administrators to run the Governor's program. It will take away funds for teachers budgets and money to hire more teachers.

I keep hearing how something is going to change. It does not have to change now. Do not rush to a decision this big. New bad ideas to fix old bad ideas isn't fixing anything. Put an end to Common Core Standards and the Governor's method for teacher evaluation.

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