

Dear Ct. Legislators,

I am a middle school history teacher with over 30 years experience and my job now includes copying numerous articles on the copy machine, having students read the articles, take notes using the various notetaking styles that I now teach in my history class, then providing questions for the students to answer, or write an essay about the article. I also have students 3 times a year compare various articles and write persuasive essays using the articles and several primary sources. Lost in my class is the ability to teach history, to provide my students with the opportunity to become life learners with providing them a general opportunity to learn about the history of our country. History is learning about the events and the people that shape our country....this opportunity is lost because I no longer have the opportunity to really teach because I am bound by common core...I am now a language arts instructor using historical articles to support a language arts curriculum. In addition I collect data for evaluation purposes. Are my students learning???? I will say that some probably are...but I can assure you not as much as my students did 20 years ago. Do they have the appreciation for the subject that I hope to instill? Definitely Not. I feel a great sadness that my students will never really have the background knowledge of the development of their own country.

Respectfully,

Anne Chubet-Mangiacopra  
8th Grade History Teacher