

I am writing as a concerned parent and teacher. I believe the common core has too many holes to be adopted by our state. I find it difficult to see the benefits to student learning. Our students are over tested and are being turned off from learning all together.

When I hear stories about kindergarten students coming home in tears and not wanting to go to school, I have to wonder if I myself should consider private school for my own kids when they are of school age. Children should be allowed to be children. Children should be allowed to play and explore because that is how they learn. They should be allowed to be creative. The common core allows no room for play or exploration even at the earliest levels.

The common core is not flexible. As a teacher and a parent our job requires us to be flexible. How can we do our students a service if we have such narrow paths to lead them through? Our students don't feel comfortable taking tests on computers no matter how many "tools" the test has. So many of my students have come to me stressed out because they will not be able to read the SBAC from a paper copy but instead have to read it on a computer.

How is the common core going to mold our future leaders? Our students will not be successful if the common core is adopted by our state because our students will no longer know how to be creative. They will no longer be able to problem solve. They will however know how to take a test on a computer.

Please look more deeply into the common core. It is a business model not an educational model.

Thank you for your time.

Karna Hopkins

FHS Art

East Lyme Conn tax payer