

I was at the hearings all day and there was a question raised regarding the roll of superintendents and why there was a disconnect. I believe I can help clarify.

I am a mom and business owner in the State of Connecticut. I first became concerned with Common Core last year when our superintendent increased our professional development budget and curriculum budget over 200%. Other line items increased tremendously as well.

The Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents is a lobbying group who are trying to restrict the authority of the Board of Education to its role as a representative body. Below is a screen capture from their proposal.

**Reform
Leadership.**
Realign Connecticut's education system for success by making authority and responsibility equal.

|| **Define** the role and responsibilities of the Superintendent of Education (formerly Superintendent of Schools) in state statutes; make authority commensurate with responsibilities and eliminate ambiguity.

|| **Change** the state statutes so that:

- The Governor appoints the Commissioner of Education with the statutory authority and responsibility to provide educational leadership.
- The position of the Superintendent of Education provides leadership to the Board of Education.
- The District Board of Education makes decisions only on policy matters, the annual budget and the hiring, supervision and evaluation of the Superintendent.
- The contract between the District Board of Education and the Superintendent of Education can be for a five-year period and is renewable.

|| **Restrict** authority of the Board of Education to its role as a representative body for the community it serves.

Our superintendent created chaos to get more money. We are a lovely little community with supportive parents who would do anything to support our teachers. This was wrong. This is a big power grab of the budget that is pulling money from our kids for things that will truly improve their education.

Cost aside, please do not lose sight that these standards or testing have never been proven to improve education at all! Our children are getting totally lost in this conversation.

Connecticut can do better than what Common Core represents. The education of our children is not the job of the federal government.

Thank you kindly,
Kim
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"We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty." -Maya Angelou