

My name is Lashawn Robinson, and I am the proud parent of two children at Achievement First Hartford Elementary School. I'm here to speak in strong support of the Common Core.

Some people will tell you that because my kids come from a certain zipcode, they can't succeed and college isn't an option. Those are the same people telling you it's ok to give our kids a curriculum that's too easy and doesn't prepare them for college. I'm here to tell you not to believe them.

The teachers at our school believe that my kids can accomplish anything, and they push them to do their best. When we hold high expectations for our children, like the Common Core does, our kids rise to the challenge. I want my children to be held to the college ready standard in the Common Core, because they'll need it when they attend college-- because they are going to college and will graduate. I don't want excuses. I don't have time for delays.

Every child in Connecticut deserves the Common Core. Please don't sell our kids short by telling them what they can't do. Please don't walk away from the Common Core. Our kids' futures depend on it.