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ED Testimony

Legislative Office Building,

Room 1E

300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

Dear Education Committee Leaders,

I am writing this letter as a testimony to how poor I feel the Common Core way of learning is. I am writing to you as a parent and also a substitute teacher in the Woodstock Public School System.

This new "wave" or way of teaching has only brought confusion, anxiety and panic to my family. As a parent and a substitute teacher trying to explain this new way of learning has no consistency, nor does it make any sense. It has created panic and anxiety in my nine year old child who is in the fourth grade when we try to help her with her homework and explain it the way we learned as students. She panics and tells us she will get in trouble at school because that wasn't the way the teacher told her to do it.

How do you expect parents to be able to teach this way? These poor little kids are in school so long and then the endless amounts of homework leave little to no time for them to be children. What you are doing is creating children with more mental health problems and more children that do not believe in themselves academically. I urge you to please reconsider what you are doing. You are making these children into robots that have lost a zest for arts, culture and hands on learning. These children are machines that do worksheet after worksheet to try and arrive at answers, when they could have arrived at it much more quickly and efficient.

The stress that these teachers must feel is visible in their classrooms as well. They have the constant worry if they don't arrive at the numbers that are acceptable to the state standards they may lose their job. This isn't what I want for my children, I want my children to be happy and learn not be with teachers that are stressed and on edge.

I urge you as a concerned parent to please take a closer look at what you are doing to our youth today. I moved to Woodstock, CT in 2005 in the dream and hope of giving my children the best public education that I could find. The state of CT is failing my children and I will fight for my children for as long as I need to. PLEASE STOP THIS COMMON CORE!

Concerned parent,

Sarah E. Gorgone, Woodstock, CT