

## **Victor Britton, Teacher, Rhinebeck Central Schools**

The common core curriculum, along with other ill-timed and poorly planned initiatives, are strangling innovation in my school. In the last four years, educators, students and administrators alike have been scrambling trying to meet the cascading edicts from both Race to the Top, Governor Cuomo, NYSED and other "players". Please stop!

The Common Core mantra of "college and career ready" has diverted, damaged or prevented so many programs that would have nurtured students with vocational talents and aspirations. It can't be one size for all, then a bunch of after thought "band-aids" used to stem bleeding from damaged arteries.

The linkage to teacher evaluations has diverted thousands of hours to senseless SLO's and negotiations. Teachers are being judged by tests in which most of the students have no investment.

Due to this quagmire of discouraging requirements, talented young people are avoiding the profession of education.

Please stop and soon.