**Michael Corrigan, Teacher**

The Common Core has been a complete mess.  The implementation has been a huge debacle, causing enormous gaps in curriculum and therefore the same enormous gaps in instruction and learning.  These are gaps that these students will never be able to get back.  Beyond the implementation, it focuses entirely too much on high stakes testing.  Having teacher evaluations tied to test scores has caused a narrowing of the curriculum and a "teaching to the test" culture. Despite there being no empirical evidence to support such a practice, the state has decided to double down and make 50% of the teacher evaluations tied to state test scores.  In fact there is much evidence supporting the contrary of this practice (http://www.amstat.org/policy/pdfs/asa_vam_statement.pdf).  The state needs to get rid of Common Core and do what's best for students and teachers.