

### **C. Klee, Teacher**

"The Common Core Standards are not a problem for me or for my child (7th grade). We have always had a list of standards of some sort that needed to be followed in order to cover curriculum. However, the general public does not understand the difference between Common Core Standards and the methods being taught from the various resources (NYS modules, textbooks, etc.) that are chosen by individual districts. Our district mandates that we use the NYS Modules and in my opinion (from over 20 years of successful teaching), a teacher should never only use one source of information for their instruction. Researching numerous sources usually results in teachers acquiring a broader understanding of their subject and differentiated methods for solving problems.

When parents complain about the work, they are usually complaining about the "how", not the "what". For example, most adults have never used tape diagrams and are confused by them. The Common Core does not mandate that tape diagrams are used - hundreds of schools never even introduce them - yet the general public links these to requirements of the Common Core. Parents need to be educated on the difference between the "how" and the "what" so that when they have an issue, they can address it intelligently.

There is so much negativity toward schools right now and teachers should not be the target. The general public's (as well as lawmakers') lack of knowledge about Common Core needs to be addressed."