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New York State has long been recognized as one of the top best states to receive an education within this nation. Since the advent of the Common Core initiative, the quality of the curriculum is not as stellar. The math worksheets (generated from the NYS website) that come home for my children to complete are bizarre at best. The instructions are confusing. There are no examples provided. Parents are at a loss because they cannot rely on how they were taught in order to help their children. The process through which elementary children must navigate these multi-step algorithms is slow and tedious. Young children do not have the attention span to commit to so much abstract thought. Instead of creating a distaste for learning as do the Common Core Learning Standards, we should be inspiring our young learners. I've never seen so much unhappiness in little children regarding their schooling. The disappointment is caused by the constant drilling and testing and labeling students from preK programs on up. With the content, rigor, structure, pacing, and delivery of the Common Core curriculum children are taught early in their lives that school is going to be unpleasant and a place where they will struggle to succeed. They will have to abandon their individuality and become robotic in thought if they wish to survive. Our state and country was made great already because we used to embrace individual creativity among our youngsters. There was purpose in what they did either at school, on the farm, or at home and there were jobs available that yearned for every developed skill. With Common Core learning the variety of skills nurtured in people is squashed and we can no longer produce generations of people who can meet certain job requirements. So now those jobs fade away as we see happening in the small business market.