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I have found no evidence that the common core curriculum works. I am a retired teacher of 33 years and have tried to help my 10 year old grandson with some of his Common Core curriculum assignments. Many do not make sense and are not grade appropriate. The tests questions used on the Standardized Tests are often not grade appropriate.

The bottom line is that all of this, plus more, has been said by more qualified people than me, yet the Core was pushed forward without addressing the major concerns. Why should anyone believe this time will be different. If you give a test to students and more than 50% fail the test something is wrong and any reasonable person knows that it is not that all the teachers who are teaching the material on the test are doing a poor job. The numbers speak for themselves. Now, as is evidenced by the number of students opting out of testing, you have lost the confidence of parents and it will be VERY hard to get it back. This is and has been an educational disaster.

Get true educators from the trenches involved without strong arming them to go along with the corporations being hired by the state to provide curriculum material and tests. Have them develop the material, test it, one class at a time, and reevaluate it, adjust it and then go to the next class/grade level.