

Angela W. C., Parent

"The challenge with the Common Core, and teaching today in general, is that it fails to provide the life skills that students will need in high school, college and in life after school. For example, the focus on teaching multiple methods for answering math equations seems like a good one, especially when many students struggle with math. However, these alternative methods take away from tried and true methods that have worked for generations and can still work for the vast majority of students today. Alternative methods should be tools that teachers can call upon to use on an individualized basis when necessary. Students are leaving elementary school and even middle and high school, without learning how to write. The reading and writing levels of students is significantly declining. They do not know how to write a basic essay or book report because these are tools no longer used in school. They do not know how to address a letter, which they may need to do for employment. Studying multiplication tables, being taught to vocabulary words using phonics, researching and writing -- all are skills, for the most part, that are no longer being. However, when these students enter some high schools, and certainly college, there is an expectation that they have mastered these skills, so they fall behind or spend time trying to catch up. The current curriculum our students are being given is inadequate and will leave them ill-equipped to meet basic standards in college and will leave them struggling in the "real" world. Common Core is a system designed to earn profits for corporations rather than move our students to the 'head of the class' in an increasingly global market. Common Core is not the answer we need to have a stronger, smarter, more educated society. It just doesn't make the grade!"