

Carol Bellavia, Parent

The concept of a common core standards across the United States is in theory a good one. Why shouldn't we expect students to learn a same basic curriculum? The problem in NY is how it was developed and rolled out. Standards do not meet the cognitive abilities of children. Children develop at different rates and learn in different ways, education is not one size fits all. Testing is a valid way to trend progress, but annual testing for three days at a time with questions that are confusing and not age appropriate does no one any good. Bottom line is testing should be used as a tool and standards should be age appropriate. Children learn in different ways and the way a child performs on a state test should not have a direct impact on a teacher's performance. Kids need to be kids, there are multiple creative ways to learn. Teachers are no longer allowed to be creative and kids are no longer allowed to be kids. Everyone is working to the test and there is no longer time for inquiry based learning and exploration. STOP the grand experiment and put realistic standards in place. GIVE children back their innocence and childhood!