

Carol Burris, Administrator, Former South Side High School principal

The Common Core has a myriad of problems which is causing the pushback by parents and teachers.

1) the NYS standards were pushed down a grade level-- former 3rd gr math now in 2nd, and all reading levels raised one grade level. Thus they are developmentally inappropriate and not in line with the developmental stages identified by Piaget.

2) The math is loosely based on Singapore math and it is very confusing. At the same time, the standards include a lot of drill basic math. It is a mess for most kids, as parents will attest.

3) There is an overemphasis on "close reading" which comes from an outdated view of reading known as "new criticism". It may be great for test prep, but it does not help kids learn to read. Informational text is overemphasized, and research on developmental reading rejected.

4) HS Math sequence is awful--trig excluded, too many sophisticated concepts in algebra 1. Overemphasis on constructions in Geometry.

5) the ELA Regents is modeled after AP exams. Really awful. Look at results and cut scores. You cannot even tell what you are measuring it was put so low so kids could pass.