

Bonnie Boyce, Parent

"I have 4 children, two of whom have learning disabilities. My two oldest sons have graduated from public high school with honors and have graduated (23 yr old) or will graduate (20 yr old) from college. My two younger children are diagnosed with ADHD, LD (daughter 12) and ASD (son 10). Until Common Core, I had high hopes that my two younger children would graduate from public high school and go on to college. Common Core is a disaster for kids with learning disabilities. For kids who are two or more years behind to be expected to absorb lessons that are geared two years or more above their grade level is ridiculous. On top of that, the reading passages are filled with vocabulary which will never be used in a life time. My 10 year old was expected to memorize words like bromeliad and epiphyte. When is a 10 year old going to use these words ever again? The reading passages have to be read over and over again before they can be comprehended (it took me two times or more to understand the main idea and I have a Masters degree). The teachers have not been trained to modify the lessons as they should AND are required to do under my son's IEP. It is an absolute disaster for him. There is no thought process behind the way they are teaching him and his fellow special ed students. It appears that the teachers are throwing everything plus the kitchen sink at him and hoping something will stick!!! The math is so confusing and is presented in 10 different ways so quickly that nothing can be absorbed in the time frame given. I am so disheartened by Common Core and its application in my son's school I am truly frightened for my son's educational future. Because of Common Core, my husband and I send my daughter with LD to a private special ed school at great cost to our family. PLEASE DO SOMETHING to give ALL KIDS the opportunity to learn, gain self esteem and go on to higher learning. Thank you, Bonnie Boyce"