

Timothy R Coughlin, Parent

While the idea of a common core curriculum is made with good intentions, I am very disappointed with where we are as a state. A one size fits all doesn't work, because we aren't creating light bulbs, cogs, or cell-phones (GE, Motorola) in our schools, we are teaching our children. There is nothing more subjective than a human mind, especially a developing one. The lack of science, social studies, and the arts at the elementary levels is disheartening. My kids are Math & ELA'd out. My second grader is tired of doing rote worksheets, and I am sick of not having a resource to use to help them outside of a website! The only thing that saves him is what me and my wife do at home. I don't know how long that can last though since he is in school almost 8 hours of his useable day! The roll out and implementation of CC by NYSED has been a disaster, and muddying the waters with teacher-stakes invested in the testing has only placed further stress on our children and schools. Our local colleges are down in teacher enrollment, and our district is short subs! Why? Because our federal and state politicians are using our kids as a bargaining chip to fight unions and common core testing is their weapon. Education needs reform, but common core is not the answer. This is a state level issue. The federal government should've taken their 700 million and put it into a public works project to decrease unemployment and welfare in this state. The cycle of poverty and the degeneration of the family is the driving force behind why failing schools fail.