

### **Nicolins Ciaramella, Parent**

"I feel obligated to write on behalf of children that are average, below average, those with special needs, and high average students with anxiety. While the concept of "Common Core" seemed like a positive start to organizing our education system, the standards and curriculum do not support the idea. If children cannot read or understand the standards before them, why should they follow them? How can they understand them? They are inappropriate. Have teacher from the upper grades tell teachers from the lower grades what is expected, not business people or a select group of people decide for all. The newly adapted curriculum has no merit. Why are you trying to program how a child thinks? Each child is a snowflake, individual and unique. While there are an infinite number of snowflakes, no two are alike. Science 101. Treat children individually, not whole. What works for one child may not for another. My greatest fear is that 13 years from now, my son will have no interest in school, that others will need medication, or the dropout rate. My 5 year old desperately wants to play. The current Common Core, standards and curriculum needs an overhaul. In case no one noticed, technology is what kids demand nowadays. Sitting behind a desk, collaboratively grouped or individually, does not equate to learning. I will sit with my child to do homework, guide him, and do whatever it takes for him to succeed. But what if his best is constantly looked at below grade level/standards? The Common Core is just not common!"