

## **Domonica Creeley, Parent**

"Somewhere along the line a test was created to rate the educational system by assessing out children's abilities; to survive further education and to function as productive adults in society. Then someone decided to use the test results as a "report Card" of how our children, teachers and schools are doing. This test has had many names over the years, and now goes by the title "Common Core".

My testimonial is as a mom of an 8th grader, whose whole educational experience was flipped upside down by the introduction of the Common Core Learning Standards. My son and his class mates have had to re-learn the "basics" to fit the Common Core Test Mold; which is very flawed in the test results and the use of them.

We need to stop treating our children like a number and start treating them like the super hero's that they are. They have more to offer society than their test taking skills, which is how I see the Common Core Learning Standards; after all, they were put in place so that New York State can administer the Common Core Test. All of our children have Super Hero potential; a Super Hero by Merriam Webster's definition: is a fictional super hero having extraordinary or superhuman powers; ALSO: an exceptionally skillful or successful person. And all Super heroes; Fictional or Non-Fictional, have traits and qualities that our children can use to be successful in college and careers; such qualities as Empathy, Honesty, Integrity, Self-Discipline and Endurance. These qualities are what most employers seek out, not how a person takes a test, or how many ways they can show their work to come to the same conclusion that is universally known (ie:  $2+2=4$ ).

Speaking of, how can  $2+2$  not equal 4 in any universe, no matter how many times they show it correctly or incorrectly? While I understand the basis of wanting to know how they got the answer, they still arrived at the answer, regardless of if they did it your way or theirs. Are you saying that 2 white sugar packets plus 2 pink sugar packets does not equal 4 sugar packets , just because they are not dots spaced in a certain format?

In closing, I believe that the Common Core Test is flawed in its ability to be honest with the Students/Families and Educators. The scores are not published until the students are entering or are well on their way in the following school year. Additionally we do not have access to their answers to learn from; sure you give us a number that they got correct / incorrect and how they rate in NY State. However, how are students, families and teachers supposed to know what they need assistance with, and obtain that assistance with that information. They need to be able to see what they are doing incorrectly and learn from that. It is our children's education; our children should have access to their complete results in a timely fashion."