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I am outraged at the rapid and inconvenient decision to hold this let's-pretend "listening session" today. It implies that the parent and progressive educational community have not already emphatically voiced their opinions about the Common Core Standards and their aligned standardized tests. The huge parent opt-out movement is not some special interest orchestrated by the Teachers Unions. In fact the Teachers Unions support the CC standards and tests. Most NYS parents and progressive educators do not. Both the destructive causes and effects have already been made perfectly clear to you both generally and specifically. We absolutely oppose the incremental privatization of public education by diverting money away from traditional community-based public schools due to the claim they are failures. Meanwhile, the developmentally inappropriate, decontextualized content on standardized tests and test prep used to justify this claim of failure assesses only very narrow skill sets that do not indicate college or career readiness. Rather our students' "cleverly cut" failing scores are designed to claim traditional public education needs replacement by privately run charters. We will not have the young bodies, critical minds and self confidence of our children miseducated and mistreated in order to turn them into the compliant robot workers for the children of the wealthy plutocracy, who get their education in private schools that do not assess them using these CC standards and standardized tests. If you haven't heard this before, then please listen to it today? This session will only inflame and expand the opt-out movement. You don't have a clue to how determined we are to end your billion dollar testing industry and recover both our tax money and the integrity of our public school teachers for classrooms that honor our children's, human right to a quality education.