

## **Miriam Goldstone, Parent**

While the goals of Common Core sound admirable (more thinking about content, less memorization, etc.) the application of Common Core has had a devastating effect on students' enthusiasm for school. The switch to Common Core standards was so quick, that students were deluged with new expectations, and new curriculum content, without proper preparation. Also, the amount of testing skyrocketed, adding to already heightened stress levels. It seems every few months, there is a new round of testing from various groups who want to assess student progress. Each day of testing is a day my child does not spend learning! Additionally, adherence to the new standards meant taking away some of the more innovative and creative content in the high school curriculum. No time for engaging in discussion, taking time to discuss the issues of the day, participating in art or drama. Last, I believe the standards are too high, geared toward turning students into experts in math or history. Not every child needs to be highly proficient in every subject. What happened to reading to gain an understanding of human emotion or different perspectives? Today, reading is geared toward complex, anachronistic texts to teach history. Just not fun or inspiring anymore.