

Michael Hanna, Parent

DEAR GOVERNOR, COMMON CORE TASK FORCE, SED,

There appears to be a straw man argument that those who have been troubled by recent state education policy decisions, laws, and implementation are somehow against high standards and quality assessments. These high stakes tests have lacked transparency, lead to over-testing, educators weren't included, have been of little help to the students taking them, and are tied to uses like professional review that they were not designed for.

I'm heartened to see reconsideration of the standards and the testing. But each cycle seems to rush through review and implementation.

I would end by asking you when you meet with your committee to refer to Superintendent Wool's earlier suggestions. Let's take the time to get assessments right.

Please,

- Review the appropriateness of K-3 standards.
- Please fund our poorest districts and provide professional management support.
- Fully Restore GEA and Foundation Aid
- Stop saying our schools are failing. Many are doing great!
- Please get out of the way of our many successful districts. Red tape and mandates are holding us back.
- Decouple or minimize testing's relationship to APPR