

**Peter Hauck, Parent**

Standardized testing is the bane of modern education. It removes spontaneity and creativity from the pedagogical equation. Even in the town in which I live, which boasts one of the finest school systems in America, students are learning useless skills they will never use past state assessments. Teachers are not what is wrong with our schools. Foolish politicians focused on the illusion of progress are. It's time to make parents and communities accountable. Teachers should be able to focus on nurturing future creative thinkers in a world where that is crushing that ability. DBQs and Critical Lenses are not the answer.