

Thomas Hay, Parent

"I believe the goals for the Common Core standards are sound, and I believe we need higher standards for our children's education in today's competitive global economy. However, my perception is that the introduction and roll-out of the Common Core was flawed, and that kids and teachers were not given enough time to ramp up to the new level of achievement expected of them. In addition, with so much emphasis and reward being placed on test scores for schools, teachers and children, the resulting drop in score levels only served to fan the flames of opposition. Most people are going to be more passionate about the immediate results for their children or themselves than they are about the long-term benefit of imposing higher standards. I don't see a positive way forward from here: neither giving in to public resistance and abandoning the standards nor plowing ahead at full steam while more people opt out is beneficial. And going back to the drawing board would be a costly waste."