

Karen Jurek, Parent

I live in NYS and pay the highest taxes in the country for the services that I used to receive. I live in a suburb of Buffalo, where I pay nearly \$4,000 a year in school taxes. I want my school district controlled at the local level. I do not want a Governor, with no classroom experience making decisions for my children. My son's instrumental music program was just cut so more class time could be spent on test prep. We are paying millions of dollars to corporations to design tests for children who don't read. It's absurd. I will opt my children out of state testing until it is fixed. As a special note, my son is in the top 10% of his class. The survey issued by Commissioner Elia was so difficult to navigate, that poor or uneducated parents would not have been able to use it. I will continue to only vote for candidates who realize the importance of education.