

**Melisse Machnica, Lancaster Central Schools**

My greatest concern is that students with disabilities will become so discouraged that they will lose hope and become dropouts. Public education should not only be accessible, but achievable. You would be spending your time wisely if you visited classrooms, and spoke to the teachers and students directly affected. Developing standards of education in a vacuum never works. In five years you will be addressing the drastic increase in drop out rates in New York State.