

Seamus Mccarville, Parent

Instruction largely consists of students sitting at their desks for long periods of time completing test preparation worksheets. This is in addition to the current conditions where an eight year old already sits for six hundred minutes of tests. The system is forcing teachers to abandon creative practices in exchange for test preparation. Since not all school subjects have a state test, this forces a drastic narrowing of the curriculum to only include those subjects, topics, and types of questions that are on the state tests. Topics and entire subjects will not be taught as teachers try to avoid ineffective ratings to preserve their jobs.

Only 15% of the standards are being tested and prepping for the tests will take over a month. There is zero evidence that the tests help determine if students are college and career ready. This whole exercise does not prepare students to become better test takers as this is the only 500 minute test they will ever take. The state is running an experiment and using our students as guinea pigs!