

**Karen McIntyre, Teacher, Lancaster Central Schools**

As a teacher I believe the common core is a good idea to standardize education. However, I feel the NYS Modules and how closely districts are tied to them to instruct is ridiculous. I feel like the creativity and problem solving and out of the box thinking is gone from our daily instruction. Children are not thinking critically and freely. They are becoming prescriptive robots. Only able to do what is told to them and no more.

As a teacher I think the testing related to the standards is unfair to link to teacher success/proficiency. Test the teachers not the kids. Students are not all square pegs in square holes. There is a lot of baggage/circumstances/encouragement or lack thereof that students are prepackaged with. That is not taken into account through a standardized test. Significant growth occurs each year with every one of our students / your children / that can not be measured on a test and should not be used to measure your child's teacher.

Please fix this broken system that was never fully thought out or vetted from the start.