

Gretchen Mergenthaler, Parent

Common Core and the high stakes tests that go with it, have been a failure for my teenage son. He is one of the generation of kids who were denied quality education due to CCSS testing/NCLB.

He has been bored to tears with the reading of "texts" instead of interesting literature. Poetry got a short mention in ELA on after "the tests". Reading is all about "levels" and "evidences"...nothing for passion and discussion.

Finally, the months of test prep leading up to the tests drove us to pull him from his school of four years and find a school that has a waiver from testing...and guess what???!!! The teachers get to be creative and exciting and topical with their curricula!!!! Go figure!!!! They use books that excite them for the units, not books with "aligned to the Common Core" printed at the bottom.

My son has thoughtful homework assignments he actually talks about school now!

Stop pretending that this policing of professional educators by testing is a good thing. It is killing the love of teaching and learning.

Support good teaching by providing REAL professional development that teachers WANT. Not scripted curricula and worksheets.