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I think the Common Core Learning Standards are a step in the right direction for our children, as they provide a framework to develop higher level thinking skills, but I challenge the Task Force with four items. One, to educate parents more on how to support learning at home. Many parents were not educated using the Common Core Learning Standards, and they are confused by them. The at-home learning piece is essential to a student's success, especially since Common Core curriculum is fast-paced and relies on students relearning concepts and practicing at home. Somehow, parents must be more regularly involved and educated on what their children are expected to know. Two, please find other ways to assess student and teacher progress than using a standardized test. Please allow teachers to be involved in the creation of standardized tests, have them use alternate forms of assessment and have administrators at the school evaluate teachers' progress. Third, can the Common Core Task Force develop a social-emotional strand of standards? Help communities to become stronger as students gain important social skills and strategies to handle emotions? Have a way for teachers to evaluate how students are feeling about their learning and about themselves within the school community. This is important throughout the K-12 education experience, and something that is neglected due to the emphasis on academic based Common Core Standards. Fourth, can the Common Core Task Force give some thought as to how students with Learning Disabilities and Emotional Disabilities can specifically work with the standards? What scaffolding, strategies and/or accommodations can be used for students with various disabilities to ensure their success? Can we think about these students differently and offer special education that is unique from mainstream education? Thank you for this opportunity.