

Eric Mihelbergel, Parent

"Opting-out has become a way of life for parents. We will protect our children from the harms of testing at all costs. Many of us parents will NOT be attending your Common Core Task Force meetings as we know the Governor cannot be trusted to listen us. Instead, we will lead others to embrace opt-out as their way of life.

We have repeatedly informed legislators of what needs to be done. You do NOT need another Task Force and 'listening tour'. This Task Force is simply misdirection, and we know your efforts are not sincere. If you wish to have real conversations with parents you MUST first:

- 1.) Completely disconnected student tests from teacher and school evaluations
- 2.) At the state level, remove the Common Core Standards and replace them with the previous NYS Standards
- 3.) At the Federal level, reduce state testing to only once in grade 4 and once in grade 8. NYS legislators must advocate for this change with parents.
- 4.) Enact legislation that makes it illegal to collect student data without written permission from the parent.

The above is the STARTING POINT. Anything less does NOT even warrant a conversation with parents. You know exactly what needs to be done. I will NOT engage in conversation with you until the above 4 items are resolved."