

**Kathleen Pilla, Teacher, Mamaroneck UFSD**

"The common core curriculum is fine, high standards are healthy and needed. That being said, I think some common sense could be applied to the timing of the exam, and a closer look at the criteria for special education students who are expected to take the exam should be considered. The state should administer the state exams in June along with the regents tests. This way teachers have a full school year to actually teach all the material at a pace that might foster a higher level of understanding. As it is teachers are flying through the material quickly in order to teach everything by April. There is little time left for review, and certainly not enough time for students who need more time to process information, and who learn at a slower rate. I also think students who have documented developmental disabilities should be taking these tests."