

Michelle Pollack, Pine Bush Central School District

"As a math coach I see many benefits of common core math in the elementary years. However in middle school the content shifts way too fast for those students. Students in seventh grade are first learning operations with integers and they are expected to quickly do the same for rational numbers. I think 7th grade should focus on integer operations and work on rational numbers in eighth grade. I also think eighth grade goes much too fast and becomes much too abstract for eighth graders. Algebra 1 should stay in high school. I think if common core was implemented the correct way over many years it would get the bad reputation it has. We need to give teachers and students time. These poor kids were put in the middle of an agenda that was impossible to reach."