

Kathleen Santa Maria, Teacher, Holmes Elementary

"I believe that our expectations for student learning using the common core is not a bad thing. The problem is the testing. I teach children in third grade and my job is to teach third grade curriculum. I am evaluated by the NYS tests that are written on a level that my students are not currently at. You can't expect a third grader who is a great third grade reader to take a test that is written at 5th and 6th grade levels. Or give third graders math tests by trying to trick them but making the test questions confusing and not developmentally appropriate for their grade level. Let's grade them on what they have been taught."