

Heather Schmidt, Parent

"I have three children ages 10, 8 and 5. All attend public school and have had great teachers. I am also a middle school science teacher. Over the past few years I have seen the quality of education decline. Teachers are being forced to over emphasize test prep so that their students can " grow and achieve " on state exams. This has completely changed the dynamic in the classroom. The only way this will change is if teacher evaluations are not linked to test scores. Children should not be subjected to constant classroom drills in the hope that they will better perform on test. Common Core standards are good in theory, but the actual application has failed tremendously."