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The learning standards are too lofty, and the pace at which they need to be taught is unrealistic. Some of the math word problems stump adults. Pressure on the teachers to work at a grueling pace is causing anxiety, and teachers are no longer enjoying their jobs. Teachers are stressed that they will not be perceived as "exceptional" and, that is transferring into a defeatist attitude. There is little room for teacher creativity because the abundance of material needing to be covered is nearly unattainable. Students and parents are feeling so much pressure due to the high stakes testing, that last year a number of my students were crying, or had to go to the nurse because they became physically ill due to the overwhelming expectations.