

#4 - Experts who opposed the Common Core (b).

James Milgram, professor emeritus of math at Sanford University and served as a member of the Validation Committee for the Common Core national standards for math. He was the only one of the 25-member committee who had any math degree. He testified before an education committee of the Texas legislature and said that the standards were a by product of politics and special interests that made them “reflect very low expectations and to be as non-challenging as possible.”

I can cite numerous comments from experts regarding the Lowered Common Core Language Arts Standards.

Some are: Common Core Curriculum lowers the standards so that only classical literature, 50% will be taught from what was traditionally 80%. The other 50% is just informational text, such as reading a computer manual. Why is that so harmful? “Classical Literature is the foundation of our nation. It teaches children to: investigate their surroundings; to make wise decisions; to have empathy; it teaches them how to exercise their liberties. You don’t learn that from a computer manual.”

Dr. Jay Green, Professor at the University of Arkansas, testified before the U.S. House of Representative Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, and left this

warning about the dangers of a national education system:

“If we discover a mistake or wish to try a new and possible better approach (to Common Core), we can’t switch. We are stuck with whatever national choices we make for a very long time. And if we make a mistake, we will impose it on the entire country.”

Who are the ones behind the scenes driving this in each of the States? They are a wide spectrum of special interest groups who hope to make lots of money from the sale of computers for each of the students, the e-books that will now be used instead of text books, and the cost of teacher training. They

could care less about raising standards or improving the quality of education. They just want to improve their pocket books. My colleagues here tonight have shared vital information regarding Common Core. Please review this important information while you can still exercise your power as school board members.

Thank you.