

#9 - Curriculum & Testing made Uniform when moving State to State

**Good evening Supt. _____ and honored
board members. My name is _____.
I am a retired teacher, or _____.**

**You have just heard the concerns of my
colleagues regarding COMMON CORE.**

**I want to preface my comments concerning
COMMON CORE to encourage you to place on your
agenda an open discussion of Common Core so that
parents will know what is in this program.**

These are my concerns:

**We are told that the purpose of the Common Core
Standards is so that the curriculum and testing is**

uniform in the country so that when students move, they won't have transition problems.

Actually, the U.S. Census states **only 2% of all people move across state lines in any given year**. Although the Common Core Standards dictate what students should learn in a given year, they do not dictate the sequence of the learning topics. Example: a student may learn material one year, move to another state the following year and would be re-learning the same material or have moved to a totally different state and found those students had learned something the year before. This thought process in no way would improve student mobility. Students will study fewer ideas and facts, but they'll be expected to know more about those they do study.

We are told that Common Core national standards will help teachers improve their craft because it will allow them to collaborate and learn from teachers around the country.

ACTUALLY, School districts around the country are already spending a significant amount of money on professional development and teachers routinely collaborate within their schools, districts and across the country. In addition, there are hundreds of websites that enable teachers to be able to share or sell their lessons with other teachers around the country. We are giving up our authority to others where we will have no voice at all “but will continue to be ‘allowed’ to pay the bills.”

And finally, we are told that the **Common Core Standards in curriculum cannot be changed**, that is the rules. Should a school district find that the math program is insufficient, and reflect very low expectations, the Common Core Math curriculum cannot be changed. Should parents find the language arts program isn't giving their students the classical literature that is the foundation of our nation, it cannot be changed.

We know that classical literature teaches children to: investigate their surroundings; to make wise decisions, to have empathy; it teaches them how to exercise their liberties. Books like Moby Dick, Uncle Tom's Cabin, and Huckleberry Finn will not be read by the students. The program cannot be changed.

Please consider adding to your agenda an open hearing regarding Common Core so that parents can know what is in this radical program.

Thank you.