

Good morning,

When I first heard of the word "Common Core" and read a little about it I thought it sounded fine. It was only after researching how it was created and how minority reports from education experts for both parts of the test (Math and ELA) were speaking out about it that I paused in my tacit support.

Common Core has excellent goals, however it's clear that the US is not ready for what is a national curriculum. Oregon has an outstanding infrastructure in place to create its own college and career ready curriculum. We don't need a copyrighted, for profit curriculum.

As a teacher's aide the Common Core curriculum for kids with special needs is extremely poor quality. The context free reading materials do not engage and do not activate prior knowledge at all. I would highly recommend reviewing some of the materials yourself because without that background I am not sure I would be as critical.

Common Core is developmentally inappropriate for K-3 at least, possibly that extends beyond those grade levels too. The math expected for high school students does not serve kids who want to college because CC does not include the more advanced math that my IB Diploma student takes now.

Thanks in advance for your research of this topic. On Common Core normal partisanship collapses, the problem is not partisan so the solution will transcend those divisions.

Siobhan Burke, PPS parent
Portland OR
630-699-0281