

Are Common Core State Standards Rotten to the Core?

Ask yourself a few questions...

How many states have adopted Common Core States Standards (CCSS)? - 45.

But, several states including Massachusetts, Iowa, Kansas, Virginia and South Carolina are looking for ways to back out. South Carolina's new governor, Nikki Haley, said, "South Carolina shouldn't relinquish control to a consensus of states any more than the federal government."

Did the federal government financially incentivize states to adopt Common Core State Standards? - Yes.

They gave \$4.35 billion in Race to the Top grants if states agreed to adopt CCSS. They also gave waivers to No Child Left Behind. They spent \$360 Million in stimulus money to create 2 testing groups to create national assessments.

Is it legal for the Federal Government to incentivize states in this way? - No.

The federal government is violating three federal education laws: the General Provisions Act, the Department of Education Organization Act, & the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Senator Marco Rubio just wrote a letter to the Obama admin. demanding an explanation.

Is the Federal Government making requirements associated with the Common Core State Standards? - Yes.

How could national standards be a bad idea?

The adoption of national standards is a complete reform of the American system of education. States have fought such pushes against our sovereignty in the past because it opens the door to national control of curriculum by special interest groups who want to politicize what's taught in the classroom. States have traditionally understood that nationalization is opposed to freedom.

Are Common Core Standards better than our old standards? - Highly questionable.

The Fordham Foundation has shown that several states' math standards are clearly superior to Common Core. Why not use one of those if we're going to spend millions to implement a lateral change (or even a downgrade). The CC English standards also remove a significant portion of literature study.

I'm being told that these standards are not the same as having national curriculum. Is that true? - No.

National standards and tests are already leading to a national curriculum. Publishers are creating textbooks right now in order to align them with the requirements of CCSS. There are only 2 federally funded assessments companies for CCSS. So, as publishers align with the testing requirements of only 2 companies, there will be very little to choose from in curriculum.

Will Michigan still have control over our own assessments? - No.

Michigan's State School Board signed away Michigan's rights by making us agree to the decisions of the states who are part of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortia (SBAC was created with federal stimulus funds). We are held hostage by states' votes and required to use SBAC assessments.

I'm being told that this was a state-led effort. How can my local leaders be wrong? - Very easily.

Just because states "agreed" to adopt these standards does not mean they were state-led. The National Governor's Association & the Chief Council of State School Officers sign-off on CCSS gives the appearance that they were state-led, but national standards have been pushed by special interests for several decades. It is only because the current federal administration has bypassed federal education law that CCSS implementation has taken off.

Did Michigan perform a cost-analysis of what adoption of Common Core Standards will cost taxpayers? - No.

Texas is one of 3 states who have NOT adopted the standards because they DID do a cost-analysis which showed the cost to taxpayers could exceed \$3 Billion. Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott stated that the common standards movement amounted to a "desire for a federal takeover of public education." As the feds mandate CCSS requirements, Michigan taxpayers may find themselves on the hook.

Is it true that the assessments will test my child on psychometric attributes? - Yes.

The Race to the Top application which the State Board of Education signed indicates (on page 289) that this is the case.

Do teachers have concerns about CCSS? - Yes.

Many teachers are worried about the loss of local control over curriculum. Teachers will NOT have access to the federal assessment questions for CCSS, but will have to realign their curriculum to the standards and be evaluated by how well their students do.

GET THE FACTS ON COMMON CORE. HERE ARE SOME EXCELLENT RESOURCES:

Visit: www.truthinamericaneducation.com

"I followed your advice and didn't listen to the rhetoric. I wanted the facts about local control."

www.keepeducationlocal.com

Many people around the nation are fighting against Common Core and one-size-fits-all education.

www.UtahnsAgainstCommonCore.com

Most people are hearing "higher standards" and 'state-led.' But, find out where Common Core came from, why it's here and where it's going.

www.utahsrepublic.org/common-core

Watch "Two Moms Against Common Core."
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkOD16mNbp4>

Utah State Superintendent admits Fed DOE is already pressuring States.
www.utahsrepublic.org/state-superintendent-reveals-federal-pressure