

South Dakota Wants Excellent Education For Their Children . . . Not Common



Common Core Fact Card

Have you noticed a difference in your child's or grandchild's school work recently? It could be due to the implementation of Common Core.

The Common Core "State" Standards Initiative:

- ◆ **is a governmental overhaul of our education system** to create national K-12 standards.
- ◆ **was created by liberal, private insiders in Washington, D.C.** as an incentive to states in exchange for a waiver of No Child Left Behind requirements.
- ◆ **is not constitutionally sound**, since the power to set education standards is reserved to the states. By accepting Common Core, South Dakota was essentially bribed by the federal government to relinquish this right.
- ◆ **is a "one-size-fits-all" scheme of untested**, unvetted standards never voted on by our state legislature but adopted by the appointed South Dakota Board of Education (SDBOE). Both students and teachers are participating in an absolute experiment.
- ◆ **is a high-tech intrusive system to track student performance and personal data.** *"Hopefully, some day, we can track children from preschool to high school and from high school to college and college to career."* (2009, Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education)

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Shouldn't a decision that radically alters the education of our children be weighed much more carefully?

- ◆ **is a lowering of education standards** that will prepare students for low-level programs to produce “workers,” instead of educating them to be thoughtful, intellectually-sound, well-informed citizens.
- ◆ **is a precursor to a national curriculum and tests.** Bill Gates, the impetus behind Common Core stated, “*We will only know if this effort has succeeded when the **curriculum and tests** are aligned to these standards.*” (July 28, 2009, National Conference of State Legislators)

Common Core standards, curriculum and assessments in math and English language arts have been implemented in South Dakota, and Next Generation Science (Common Core), in use in several school districts, was not officially adopted by the SDBOE.

"The advocates of the Common Core say, if you like local control of your schools, you can keep it, period. If you like your local curriculum, you can keep it, period - and people don't believe them for very good reasons. ... This is a thin end of an enormous wedge of federal power. ..." (May 5, 2014, George Will)

ACT ON THE FACTS:

- ❶ Educate yourself and others.
- ❷ Document your child's objectionable lessons.
- ❸ Know where the candidates stand.



CWA South Dakota | State Director Linda Schauer
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