

To the Honorable Ron Highland, Chair of the Education Committee:

I am writing to strongly urge you to expel Common Core from the State of Kansas.

The federal government's attempt to control public education in the form of Common Core is having dismal results. Our children are not one size fits all"! That is the approach that Common Core takes. The program removes any ad all local control. It does not breed an atmosphere conducive to learning, nor does it make room for diversity in culture, special needs children, advanced children, or needs that are unique to Kansas itself.

Our state was bribed into accepting Common Core in exchange for federal grant money that was never received. Estimated cost to maintain the program is somewhere around \$800 million per year.

Kansas students and their families privacy is being infringed upon, because sensitive data is being gathered which will follow students throughout their school years and beyond. This is done without prior written consent from parents.

Teachers are being relegated to the role of "facilitator" and evaluated by faulty tests, and retirements are on the rise. Teachers just don't want to deal with it.

We need a KANSAS solution for KANSAS education that allows us to make decisions based on who we are, not on what the federal government thinks we should be.

HB 2292, the Local Control of Kansas Education Act will:

Take back control of our schools and return responsibility to the local school boards and parents.

Protect children by putting their parents in control of sensitive data, requiring that parents be notified and give prior written consent when and how that data is to be collected and used, whom it will be shared with, and the dates it will be used.

Eliminate association with the "Race to the Top" program and Kansas College and Career Ready standards.

Cease implementation of the Common Core Standards Initiative in Kansas and completely repeal Common Core and aligned tests.

Re-establish local control of education in Kansas.

Prevent Kansas from ceding any control to entities not allowed authority over Kansas education as per Article 6 of the Kansas Constitution.

Make no mistake, we are doing our children a great disservice by keeping the Common Core program in place. It is basically dumbing them down, stifling creativity, making a mockery of quality education.

Please rid us of this Common Core program.

Sincerely,

Patricia F. Jackson
School employee
Meade, KS