

Common Core steals freedom

By: Jane Wilson – May 23, 2013

Are you one of the few parents familiar with the term “Common Core?” Did you have an opportunity to vote on whether or not you wanted it in your child’s school?

Few realize the hidden dangers within this initiative which is being used to *transform* school districts across America.

A school principal or superintendent may speak of Common Core (CC) in glowing terms, but even “they” may not know that the use of CC was one of President Obama’s goals to “fundamentally transform the United States of America!” One of the most fundamental of his projected transformations is his *federal takeover of public school education*, which is unconstitutional!

The following are some facts about Common Core:

1. CC ignores your child’s uniqueness (It’s a one-size fits all program).
2. CC strips away local control of education, leaving you with no say in standards or curriculum.
3. CC puts your child into a national database for cradle-to-grave tracking.
4. CC will prepare your child for technical school, but not for a 4-year college.
5. CC math standards are lower than our old standards.
6. CC English standards reduce great literature reading in high school to 30 percent, while leaving 70 percent for reading “informational texts” such as EPA manuals.
7. Central scientific concepts are ignored, substituting politics for actual science.
8. There was no public or legislative input. The Michigan Board of Education adopted CC *before* the standards were written. Our state legislature didn’t vote on CC.

Who else opposes Common Core? Detroit News, Heritage Foundation, Cato Institute, Republican National Committee, Michigan Republican State Committee, American Family Association, and more.

As Americans are becoming aware of cost and loss of state control with CC, we now have 17 states pushing back against it and five states have said “No!”

Ohio just removed it and Indiana has put it on hold for further examination. Texas, who said “no” estimated the cost at \$3 billion plus!

What is Common Core? The initiative is composed of copyrighted content and process standards, federally funded tests, and data bank requirements, including psychometric testing and data on our kids!

The resulting *expensive* curriculum, teacher training, text books and online abilities must all fall in line with Common Core objectives.

The Michigan legislature lost control of testing and standards when the State Board of Education gave control of testing to a federally funded consortium called Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC).

Who created the Common Core standards? According to “Truth in American Education,” the standards were initiated by private interests in *D.C.* without any representation from the states.

Eventually, the creators realized the need to present a façade of state involvement and therefore enlisted the National Governors Association, a trade association that doesn’t include all governors, and the Council of Chief State School Officers, another *D.C.-based* trade association.

Neither of these groups had a grant of authority from any particular state or states to write the standards.

The bulk of the creative work was done by Achieve, Inc., a D.C.-based non-profit that includes many progressive education reformers (www.truthinAmericaneducation.com).

Research fellow Joy Pullman at the Heartland Institute points to a February Department of Education (DOE) report that exposes the big lie that Common Core is about raising academic standards.

The report instead reveals Common Core’s progressive design to measure and track children’s competencies in ‘recognizing bias in sources, flexibility, cultural awareness and competence, appreciation for diversity, apathy, perspective taking, trust (and) service orientation.’

But there is hope! Michigan legislator, Rep. Tom McMillin, has sponsored HB 4276, which would end Michigan’s participation in Common Core. Please call your state senator, representative and governor and ask them to support it.

Common Core, or Obama Core, is a comprehensive plan to dumb down schoolchildren so they will accept the left wing view of America and its history.

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