

# The Columbus Dispatch

## Critics of Common Core are right

By: Neal McCluskey – May 12, 2013

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It took nerve to call Common Core standards' opponents "ideologically driven extremists" and "black helicopter" types in the Wednesday *Dispatch* editorial "Curriculum critics wrong," when it simply ignored critical facts.

Blatant obfuscation about the core is precisely what is feeding sudden worries. Top among the editorial's dodges: ignoring that the federal Race to the Top program essentially required states to adopt the Common Core to compete for big pots of federal money, and No Child Left Behind waivers gave states only one other option than adopting the core.

That's not tinfoil-hat stuff; that's reality, and the newspaper did no one a service by ignoring it, especially the people it cheaply tarred.

Is there bad information out there about the Common Core? Sure. And it's coming from both sides.

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