



EDUCATION

Survey: 'Common Core' standards mean nothing

Bob Kellogg - OneNewsNow - 8/30/2011 9:45:00 AM



College instructors were recently surveyed to determine whether they think the "[Common Core State Standards](#)" for K-12 students adequately prepare them for college studies.

The study set out to verify that, in the opinion of college instructors, the academic standards for math and English adequately prepare students for college. But Neal McCluskey, associate director of the [Cato Institute's](#) Center for Educational Freedom, says the survey proves nothing.

"All the survey did was tell us that what the Common Core covers is broadly applicable to introductory college courses, which it could just do by making the broadest standards you could think of," he contends. "So, it really tells you nothing about value, and especially the problems with the Common Core."

And even if the Obama administration's standards are adequate now, he points out that they will not be for long.

"Teachers responsible for performance based on those standards, even if they're good now, they will be immediately dumbed down because ... the people who have all the power in education are the people employed by the system, and they don't want to be held to high bars," the education policy scholar explains.



McCluskey

He adds that recent ACT test scores show that 75 percent of graduating seniors are not prepared for college, and most will need remedial classes. ([See earlier story](#))



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