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CITIZENS UNITE TO OPPOSE NEW NATIONAL CONTROL OF LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

On March 14, 2013, the PA State Board of Education, with Governor Corbett's support, voted to put into place Common Core Standards in English and math. It sets into motion nationally mandated common course standards for all K – 12 students so that education will be standardized across the country. This effectively shuts out the parents and local school boards' ability to influence content standards and modify them to suit local needs.

A group of concerned citizens have formed "Pennsylvanians Against Common Core", with the launch of their website, http://nopacommoncore.com and a planned effort to convince Governor Corbett and the legislature to roll back the Commonwealth's plans to adopt the national Common Cores standards. Marilyn Reed, one of PACC's education consultants and Board member of the <u>Commonwealth Education</u> <u>Organization</u> stated "Adoption of Common Core standards will impose new and questionable content standards on every school district in the state. This mandate will infringe on local school boards' and parents' right to control content standards and will cost an estimated \$645 million in implementation costs that school districts just don't have."

Why is Common Core wrong for Pennsylvania?

- National control of standards
- \$645 million required to implement in PA
- Common Core math standards will put PA's students two years behind their peers in highperforming countries
- Parents and school boards will have no recourse to influence content or standards
- Undermines the US Constitution's 10th Amendment authority of states over education

The recommendation by the PA Board of Education to adopt the standards is an end run around the legislature. This was completed with no well-publicized public hearings and has been unknown to most of our legislators.

Ze'ev Wurman, a nationally recognized expert on math standards stated: "I believe the Common Core marks the cessation of educational standards improvement in the United States. No state has any reason left to aspire for first-rate standards as all states will be judged by the same mediocre national benchmark enforced by the Federal government."

These Common Core standards have been very quietly accepted by 45 states, but exposure of the consequences of this intrusion into local and state control of education has caused a groundswell of opposition to adoption of the standards. The opposition has created an unusual alliance of school board members, school choice proponents, teachers' unions and grass roots groups.

To learn more and to sign the petition go to: http://nopacommoncore.com

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Pennsylvanians Against Common Core is a single issue education advocacy group. Our sole purpose is to have the adoption of the Common Core Standards reversed. Parents and teachers need a voice that politicians hear. Pennsylvanians Against Common Core is one of those voices.