New York State Allies for Public Education Survey
Responses collected between November 23rd and November 30th, 2015

Summary
11,908 Responses

Have you attempted to complete the NYSED survey regarding the Common Core?
- Yes, and I did complete it. 1311 (11%)
- I started it, but I did not finish. 3911 (32.8%)
- No, I have not looked at the survey. 6676 (56.1%)

Please check all that apply.
- A parent of a school-aged child 7247 (60.9%)
- A teacher 7113 (59.7%)
- An administrator 219 (1.8%)
- A grandparent of a school-aged child 627 (5.3%)
- A concerned New York State resident 5686 (47.7%)
- A school board member 146 (1.2%)

Which reason best describes your overall view of the Common Core standards?
- I support the Common Core standards. 443 (3.7%)
- I oppose the Common Core standards. 8338 (70%)
- I have concerns with some of the standards, but support most of them. 2780 (23.3%)
- I'm undecided about the standards and would like to learn more. 347 (2.9%)

Which best describes your opinion of the ELA Common Core standards for grades K-3?
- They are well-designed. 438 (3.7%)
- They are developmentally inappropriate for many students. 9865 (82.8%)
- I have no opinion. 880 (7.4%)
- I have other concerns. 725 (6.1%)

Which best describes your opinion of the math Common Core standards for grades K-3?
- They are well-designed. 482 (4%)
- They are developmentally inappropriate for many students. 9730 (81.7%)
- I have no opinion. 820 (6.9%)
- I have other concerns. 876 (7.4%)

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Which best describes your opinion of the ELA Common Core standards for grades 4-8?

- They are well-designed: 385 (3.2%)
- The texts are too difficult: 8450 (71%)
- I have no opinion: 1275 (10.7%)
- I have other concerns: 1793 (15.1%)

Which best describes your opinion of the math Common Core standards for grades 4-8?

- They are well-designed: 451 (3.8%)
- The math is too difficult and/or confusing: 9065 (76.2%)
- I have no opinion: 1217 (10.2%)
- I have other concerns: 1169 (9.8%)

What are your views of the ELA Common Core standards for high school students?

- They are well-designed: 256 (2.1%)
- There is not enough emphasis on literature as opposed to informational text: 6346 (53.3%)
- I have no opinion: 4125 (34.6%)
- I have other concerns: 1175 (9.9%)

What are your views of the math Common Core standards for high school students?

- They are well-designed: 247 (2.1%)
- The math is too complicated and/or confusing: 6393 (53.7%)
- I have no opinion: 4260 (35.8%)
- I have other concerns: 1004 (8.4%)

NY state gives tests in ELA and math aligned with the Common Core standards for students in 3rd-8th grades. What is your opinion of these tests?

- They are valid and well-designed: 108 (0.9%)
- The tests are flawed: 10815 (90.8%)
- I have no opinion: 301 (2.5%)
- I have other concerns: 683 (5.7%)
If you think the tests are flawed, please explain why.

- They are developmentally inappropriate for many students. 10005 (86.7%)
- They are not useful for assessing students with disabilities and/or English Language Learners. 9419 (81.6%)
- They are too long. 8390 (72.7%)
- They contain confusing reading passages and/or questions. 9987 (86.5%)
- I have other concerns. 2379 (20.6%)

In New York, students are required to pass five Regents exams to graduate from high school with a regular diploma. These exams are in the process of being changed to align with the Common Core standards. Which of the following best describes your views?

- Students should not graduate without passing the newly aligned Common Core Regents exams. 483 (4.1%)
- High schools should continue using the former Regents exams. 6403 (53.8%)
- The state should not require students to pass high-stakes exams to graduate. 5022 (42.2%)

The results of Common Core and Regents exams are linked to teacher and principal evaluations. What is your view of this policy?

- I agree with linking teacher and principal evaluations to test scores. 322 (2.7%)
- I am opposed to linking teacher and principal evaluations to test scores. 11393 (95.7%)
- I have no opinion. 193 (1.6%)

One of the shifts made by the Common Core is that students in grades K-5 are assigned 50% informational text (non-fiction) and 70% in other grades across all subjects, as opposed to reading more literary works such as novels, short stories, plays and poetry.

- The Common Core gets this right. I like the increased emphasis on informational text. 741 (6.2%)
- Requiring quotas for reading assignments is wrong. 6584 (55.3%)
- I have no opinion. 652 (5.5%)
- Quotas are fine, but the proportion required for informational vs. literary texts should be changed. 3931 (33%)

Regarding Common Core aligned curriculum in mathematics, which of the following best describes your views?

- I think it has improved instruction. 1066 (9%)
- I think it has worsened instruction. 9853 (82.7%)
- I have no opinion. 989 (8.3%)
Regarding the Common Core aligned curriculum in ELA, which of the following best describes your views?

- I think it has improved instruction: 893 (7.5%)
- I think it has worsened instruction: 9917 (83.3%)
- I have no opinion: 1098 (9.2%)

One of the shifts of the Common Core, especially in ELA, is to emphasize "close reading" strategies, in which teachers and students intensively focus on the text and do not relate the work to its social or historical context or their own experiences.

- I agree with the shift towards "close reading": 1209 (10.2%)
- I do not agree with this shift: 9896 (83.1%)
- I have no opinion: 803 (6.7%)

Which of the following is closest to the advice you would give education policymakers?

- Keep the Common Core standards as they are: 188 (1.6%)
- Keep most of the Common Core standards, but change a few: 1423 (11.9%)
- Abandon the Common Core and return to the former NY standards until educators can create better ones: 10297 (86.5%)