

Dear Senate Committee on Education:

The current standardized testing that is being administered to our younger children today is teaching them this--to learn to fail at such an early age when they should be learning to "Love Learning." It is heartbreaking to have Kinders come up to me and tell me how much they hate school! What are we doing? For too long now, we have experienced too many of our young people "fall through the cracks;" and we wonder why we have so many societal problems? Education provides the roots for thriving communities! The standardized testing we have burdened our children with for many years now has not worked. As a substitute teacher and tutor for children from Kindergarten through High School, I have experienced the emotional stress, loss of self-motivation, and failure for the past 20 years. I have witnessed too many quality teachers quit because they can no longer teach a curriculum where they can help their students thrive. It's been devastating, and your committee can help bring back a public educational system that will be student-centered rather than test-centered. Our childrens' futures are up to you!