

Dear House Education Committee members,

We would like to ask you to support HB 2714!

We, as parents, became aware of needing to be concerned with State assessments aligned with Common Core, when our 3rd grade son, during Fall of 2013, was coming home with new common core aligned Math worksheets, of which he could not understand what the word problems were asking him to do, neither did we understand the confusing way the new way math was being taught.

At that same time, my husband, who was serving as Chairman of the school district's Board at the time, was also receiving letters, texts, and emails from others in community, asking how the Board could allow Common Core and its tests, come into our district.

We were watching our boys get further behind in their foundational knowledge, skills, and creativity, under the new Common Core methods and preparation of tests.

After dozens of hours of educational research, we as a family came to conclusion that private school education was going to be best for our boys during this crucial time in their elementary education.

That was a hard decision, because we loved their teachers they had at their public school, and we pulled our kids out, not because of them, but because we saw the educational system was "tying the teacher's hands" and oppressively making them go along with it. This part of the educational system is set up to usurp on the frontlines, parents and teachers, when we are the ones in ultimately responsibility to work together for our children's success.

Our boys are doing wonderful right now and we have a close working relationship with their current teachers. It's a breath of fresh air that these private school teachers have time to really instruct their students and do the reasonable assessing along the way, to guide and help the student where they need help.

The Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium will not help students, and will not help the teachers to know how to help their students. Please listen to teachers and parents!

Respectfully,

Ron and Lisa Crume
Grants Pass, OR