

STOP COMMON CORE ACTION LIST

What you can do right now to slow down and help stop implementation of Common Core

1. Become knowledgeable and pass information to others. Read and distribute articles and links conveniently compiled at LibertyChalkboard.org (The School Feed) or do a google search on your own. Like Liberty Chalkboard on Facebook www.facebook.com/LibertyChalkboard and join the group www.facebook.com/groups/StopCommonCoreMassachusetts and invite your friends to do the same.
2. Call, write or email elected local, state, and national representatives and urge them to stop implementation of Common Core and PARCC. **Mailing original letters is most effective.** If you use email cc the Board of Ed at boe@doe.mass.edu

Governor Charlie Baker
Massachusetts State House,
Office of the Governor, room 280
Boston, MA 02133
Tel: 617-725-4000
Fax: 617-727-9725

Massachusetts Board of Elementary and
Secondary Education
Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D., Commissioner and
Secretary to the Board
75 Pleasant Street Malden, MA 02148
Tel: 781-338-3102
Fax: 781-338-3770

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
2 Russell Courtyard,
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4543

Senator Ed Markey (D-MA)
2108 Rayburn House Office Bldg,
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2835

Senate President Stan
Rosenberg
Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon St. Suite 332
Boston, MA 02133
Tel: 617-722-1500
Fax: 617.248.3840

Speaker Robert DeLeo
Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon St. Room 356
Boston, MA 02133
Tel: 617-722-2500
Fax: 617-722-2008

Mayor Marty Walsh
1 City Hall Square,
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 635-4500

Find your Congressman, State Representative, and State Senator by going to www.malegislature.com/people/search

3. Contact members of the Joint Education Committee www.malegislature.gov/Committees/Joint/J14
4. Pass out flyers to other parents at your school and in your community. Flyers are on the table. Take some, make copies. (Town meetings, sports games, etc.)

5. Attend school committee meetings and make statements in opposition to federal standards, particularly if members of the press will be present; circulate a petition requesting the school committee support and vote on the following resolution to rescind the adoption of federal standards:

The Name of School District Committee requests that its state legislators and the MASC support the following legislation:

Since Massachusetts has the highest standards in the Nation, and since state control over the standards at the foundation of the MCAS test is vital for Massachusetts students and since the curriculum on which those standards are based must remain in state and local control, the *Name of School District* Committee calls upon the General Court and Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to override the July 21, 2010 vote of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopting national education standards, that is, the Common Core standards in English language arts and mathematics and to direct the Board to base MCAS tests based on the Commonwealth's own curriculum frameworks.

Write, call or email your school committee members letting them know you oppose CC and PARCC.

6. Write letters to the editor to local newspapers (keep them short and to the point). Call local radio stations.

7. If your town has local cable access studio, produce a show about CCS and put it on cable. Or contact theteam@LibertyChalkboard.org, we've got one already produced that you can use.

8. If your school district will be using PARCC assessments, **OPT OUT** using the attached form. For information on whether your school system will use PARC or MCAS go to www.commoncoreforum.org/parccmcas-public-school-districts/

9. Ask your legislators to support these bills:

1.HD 3311 An Act Relative to Pausing PARCC ~ Rep Keiko Orrall (R)

Current Co-sponsors, Kim Ferguson, Susan Williams Gifford, Tim Whalen, Colleen Garry, Michael Moore, James Dwyer, Steven Howitt, Susannah Whipps Lee, Shawn Dooley

Summary: Pauses the implementation of the Partnership for Assessment for Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) test until the department of elementary and secondary education provides an assessment of the costs including but not limited to the department, the costs to the board of elementary and secondary education, and the costs to each individual school district in the commonwealth to develop and implement the PARCC; professional development associated with PARCC; and any equipment, hardware, software, or technology upgrades needed for compliance with PARCC; and any additional costs associated with data mapping of students in the commonwealth, as well as the administrative costs required to collect, maintain and protect the confidentiality of such data collection.

2.HD2040 An Act Relative to IT Upgrade Reimbursements for PARCC Compliance ~ Rep Keiko Orrall (R)

Current Co-sponsors: Kim Ferguson, Susan Williams Gifford, Tim Whalen, Colleen Garry, Michael Moore, James Dwyer, James Eldridge, Steven Howitt, Leonard Mirra, Shawn Dooley

Summary: Reimburses all schools for expenditures incurred during the previous fiscal year for upgrading informational technology hardware, software and training for compliance with the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) assessment.

3.HD1990 An Act relative to the Common Core Opt Out for School Districts

~ Rep Paul Frost (R) & Rep Keiko Orrall (R)

Summary: This bill prevents the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education from mandating that any school district in the Commonwealth follow the curriculum standards offered by Common Core State Standards. This bill also allows school districts to exempt themselves from the standardized exam known as the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC).

4.HD2404 An act relative to a PARCC Workgroup ~ Rep Brad Jones (R)

Current Co-Sponsors Keiko M. Orrall, Elizabeth A. Poirier, Sheila Harrington

Summary: This legislation would create a working group to study the rigor of the Common Core State Standards and the accompanying PARCC tests. Maryland has enacted a similar working group to look at its state standards.

5.HD1471 An Act relative to a moratorium on high stakes testing and PARCC ~ Rep Marjorie Decker (D)

Current Co-Sponsors Keiko M. Orrall, Kathleen O'Connor Ives, James J. Dwyer, Denise Provost, Elizabeth A. Poirier, Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., Joseph McKenna, Colleen Garry, Josh Cutler, James Eldridge, Paul Mark, Aaron Vega, Mary Keefe

Summary: This bill places a 3-year moratorium on PARCC and the use of high-stakes testing for 10th grade graduation, teacher evaluation, and school labeling. While MCAS may continue to be administered, it calls for a break in using MCAS as a graduation requirement, while a broad-based commission of stakeholders study the impact.

6.HD2564 An Act relative to parental opt-out of PARCC ~ Rep Donald Berthiaume (R)

Summary: Parents or guardians of students enrolled in Massachusetts public schools shall be afforded the authority to exempt their children from the standardized exam known as the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) without penalty.

7.HD 772 An Act relative to education standards ~ Rep Todd Smola (R)

Summary: Nullifies the 2010 vote of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopting national education standards; i.e. the Common Core standards in English language arts and mathematics. In addition, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall conduct an examination of academic standards and then update and revise the existing frameworks and MCAS assessment. As part of the examination process, the governor shall appoint a special commission to be chaired by the lieutenant governor and whose members will consist of educators, teachers, administrators, school committee members, parents of students, and concerned citizens. That commission shall provide input and assist DESE in developing new standards that shall be submitted to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for final approval and adoption.