

2012

# Voters Pamphlet

## On Education

### **Make Education An Election Issue**

This Pamphlet Summarizes NEW Education Policies  
Schools and Boards of Education are Adopting  
Without Informing Parents & Explains Dangers, Costs AND What Citizens Can Do  
**Be Informed! Protect Our Children!**

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President Obama's slogan "*We can't wait for Congress to act!*" is used as his excuse to end-run Congress and the Constitution to expand presidential powers in many areas — including K-12 education. **Common Core** standards is the centerpiece of Obama's education agenda. It usurps state educational sovereignty and parents rights, violates federal laws, and gives federal government de facto control of the curriculum taught in schools to control what children think and learn. These values are often NOT those of parents. Learn HOW this is happening and WHAT you can do to stop it!

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#### **Articles Include:**

- **NATIONAL STANDARDS (COMMON CORE) IS ABOUT MORE FEDERAL CONTROL —**  
But This Time Over Our Children
- **OBAMA'S EDUCATION AGENDA IS TO USE COMMON CORE TO SOCIALIZED EDUCATION**
- **COMMON CORE VIOLATES THE U.S. CONSTITUTION & FEDERAL LAWS AND SHOULD BE REPEALED**
- **COMMON CORE WILL COST ALABAMA TAXPAYERS AN EST. \$200 MILLION**
- **COMMON CORE HAS SEVERE DEFICIENCIES IN ENGLISH AND MATH STANDARDS**
- **PARENTS SHOULD DECIDE WHAT'S BEST FOR THEIR CHILDREN, NOT GOVERNMENT**
- **ALABAMA LEGISLATORS AND ORGANIZATIONS OPPOSED TO COMMON CORE**

# Make Education An Election Issue

## Common Core Is About More “Federal Control” – But This Time, They’re After Our Children.

**ISSUE: WHO SHOULD MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT CHILDREN’S EDUCATION:**  
States, Parents and Teachers; Or Federal Bureaucrats?

Governor Mitt Romney opposes federal control of education and Common Core. President Obama favors federal control and is currently taking over K-12 education through Common Core, which is socialized education.

### In 2012 YOU Will Choose Between Two Opposing Education Philosophies

Obama represents the “progressives” philosophy  
Progressives “viewed public education as a tool  
for school and cultural reform  
to be achieved through the remaking of human nature;”

Romney represents the “traditionalists” philosophy  
Traditionalists “viewed education, public or private,  
primarily as a development of an individual’s intellectual skills  
in combination with moral instruction based on  
Judeo-Christian ideals.”

*(Quotes from “Is Public Education Necessary?”, Chapter 12, by Samuel L. Blumenfield)*

### **Common Core standards is the centerpiece of Obama’s education agenda.**

We can call it “ObamaEd” since its purpose is to nationalize education,  
on the same model as ObamaCare,  
and take education decisions away from states, parents and teachers  
and give them to federal bureaucrats, whom we did not elect,  
over whom we have no control and cannot hold accountable.

### **“The progressive agenda threatens our constitutional system and parents’ right to transmit their values to their children through education.”**

*(“Empower Parents: Restore the Constitution by Returning Educational Policy to the States”,  
by Jane Robbins, EDUCATION REPORTER, November 2011)*

# Make Education An Election Issue

## President Obama Is Using Common Core To Socialize Education

### ISSUE: WHAT IS COMMON CORE?

- The national standards-based "Common Core State Standards" (CCSS) initiative is the centerpiece of the Obama Administration's agenda to centralize education decisions at the federal level;
- The Obama Administration is using the same model to take over education as it used for healthcare by using national standards and boards of unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats;
- National standards remove authority from states and parents over what is taught in the classroom and how it is tested; and
- National standards undercut the principle of federalism on which our nation was founded.

### **Obama's agenda is to use Common Core to further the Leftist agenda**

and teach acceptance of gay rights and green energy,  
to promote unions and collective bargaining,  
and to continue the Progressive's assault on God and capitalism.

### HOW DID COMMON CORE EVOLVE?

**Common Core is only the latest ploy of Leftists to federalize education in America.** Having failed many times, they built on lessons learned and carefully laid the groundwork with Obama's election. This time millions of dollars was raised from numerous organizations that would benefit financially including Gates organizations, National Governor's Association, Fordham, Achieve, etc. ([http://www.pioneerinstitute.org/pdf/gates\\_money.pdf](http://www.pioneerinstitute.org/pdf/gates_money.pdf))

**Obama's plan to socialize education parallels (1) Obama's healthcare plan and (2) the Marc Tucker-Hillary Clinton "plan to change the mission of public schools from teaching children knowledge and skills to training them to serve the global economy in jobs selected by workforce boards."**

**The master plan "lays out a plan modeled on the German system, to mold the entire American [public school] system into a seamless web that literally extends from cradle to grave and is the same system for everyone, coordinated by a system of labor market boards at the local, state and federal levels..."**

This "master plan for the federal takeover of public schools" dated Nov. 11, 1992 can be found at [http://www.eagleforum.org/educate/marc\\_tucker/](http://www.eagleforum.org/educate/marc_tucker/).

*(Adapted from an article written by Eunie Smith, President of Eagle Forum)*

# Make Education An Election Issue

## Common Core Violates The U.S. Constitution & Should Be Repealed Along With ObamaCare

### ISSUE: OBAMA IS EVADING THE CONSTITUTION AND FEDERAL LAWS

- Federal law prohibits the U.S. Department of Education from creating national standards and curriculum. Section 9527(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) prohibits the federal government from mandating, directing, or controlling curriculum or programs of instructions. Section 9527(b) prohibits funds under ESEA from being used to endorse, approve, or sanction curriculum. Yet the Obama Administration has:
  - Endorsed national Common Core standards;
  - Coerced states to adopt Common Core through the “carrot” of federal funding and
  - Threatened states with the loss of Title I funds if they did not adopt Common Core;
  - Funded to date more than \$345 million to develop national curriculum and test questions;
  - Tied national standards to the Race to the Top charter schools initiative in the amount of \$4.35 billion.

**Governor Romney has come out against national standards.**

This means Common Core will be dismantled if the GOP wins the White House.

It also means that citizens should put substantial pressure on elected officials  
who say they are “conservative”

to oppose Common Core and its funding as well, including:

Governors ♦ State Legislators ♦ School Board Members

# Make Education An Election Issue

## Common Core Is Bad For Alabama & Elected Officials Should Repeal It

### ISSUE: COMMON CORE WILL COST TAXPAYERS AN EST. \$200 MILLION

- The State Board of Education should provide a COST IMPACT ANALYSIS of this mandate they forced on the State and taxpayers. Citizens should demand this, as well as the Governor and Legislators.
- State legislators must appropriate money to implement Common Core to make the many changes associated such as changing textbooks, tests, professional development, teacher training, and providing computers and online access for ALL students including maintenance.
- How can Alabama afford to spend an additional and UNBUDGETED \$200 million for Common Core when it is:
  - ◆ laying off teachers,
  - ◆ increasing classroom sizes,
  - ◆ going into bond debt, and
  - ◆ asking citizens to approve a constitutional amendment in a September 2012 special election to transfer over \$400 million from the Alabama Trust Fund over three years, to be repaid by appropriations from the Education Trust Fund, to plug a problem with operating shortfalls in the General Fund?

For more information on Common Core, visit:

<http://www.afrw.org>

<http://truthinamericaneducation.com/common-core-state-standards/>

<http://alabamaeagle.org/>

[http://www.alabamapolicy.org/viewpoints/article.php?id\\_art=477](http://www.alabamapolicy.org/viewpoints/article.php?id_art=477)

<http://www.wetumpkateaparty.com/CommonCore/>

# Make Education An Election Issue

## Common Core Has Severe Deficiencies In English and Math

### ISSUE: DEBUNKING MYTHS ABOUT COMMON CORE

- Participation by states is NOT voluntary. If CCSS is voluntary and state-driven, why would the federal government use financial rewards to “coerce” state boards of education to adopt CCSS? These “carrots” have been in the form of Race to the Top funds and selective waivers from some of the No Child Left Behind requirements to entice states to adopt CCSS — as well as threats to end Title I funding if states did not adopt Common Core.
- Common Core does NOT guarantee better quality of education and better results. *(Adapted from letter titled “Common Core” by Gary Palmer, Alabama Policy Institute, 9/23/11)*
  - Common Core standards are almost indistinguishable from the old standards they replace.
  - **Common Core will not improve educational outcomes, but it will nationalize mediocrity and stifle innovation.**
  - IF there is anything in Common Core that would improve education outcomes in Alabama, the state board of education could incorporate those standards into our state education requirements without having to participate in and subjugating our state sovereignty to the federal program and without having to spend hundreds of millions of dollars the state can’t afford.
  - **A recent report “Alabama Leads the Nation in Reading Gains, Meets National Average” shows that Alabama is doing better WITHOUT Common Core Standards** and reading scores increased 13 points from 2003-2011! <http://www.afrw.org>.
  - Many teachers agree that CCSS has lower standards than Alabama’s current standards which are from A- to B+, according to Fordham Institute.
  - **Parental involvement will be diminished. One popular proponent of CCSS has even suggested the elimination of local school boards.**
- Common Core Math and English are NOT better than standards of other states. **Deficiencies in math and English standards are severe.** Read a bulleted summary of the qualitative and quantitative reasons why Common Core standards are DEFICIENT when compared to other standards already in place by other states, titled “*Debunking Myths about Common Core*”; as well as the full report titled “*Common Core Still Doesn’t Make the Grade*” by Dr. Sandra Stotsky and Mr. Ze’ev Wurman and their credentials at <http://www.afrw.org>.

# Make Education An Election Issue

## Parents Should Decide What's Best For Their Children, Not Government

### ISSUE: WHAT WE CAN DO TO DEFEAT COMMON CORE STANDARDS

#### At the Federal Level:

- Support elected officials and candidates who oppose Common Core standards.
- Request U.S. Senators and Representatives to defund Common Core.
- Remain alert to federal actions that promote/oppose socialized education like Common Core.
- Restrict severely the intervention of the federal Department of Education in state education, including dismantling the U.S. Department of Education.
- Elect a Republican President to replace Obama in the White House.

#### At the State Level:

- Support elected officials and candidates who oppose Common Core standards.
- Request the Alabama Board of Education to repeal Common Core.
- Demand that the Alabama Board of Education NOT ask for a waiver to No Child Left Behind. (Strings attached are to agree to the Obama Administration's unconstitutional acts to coerce states to adopt Common Core.)
- Request State legislators to defund Common Core.
- Be aware of special interest organizations like the Business Council of Alabama, which supports Common Core and funds candidates who support Common Core.
- Don't patronize businesses like ExxonMobil which promote Obama's efforts to socialize education.  
<http://www.exxonmobil.com/corporate/community-math-other.aspx>

#### NOTABLE QUOTES

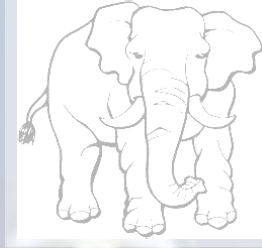
"If Exxon — or any other company for that matter — wanted to ensure an educated workforce, the last thing they should be doing is supporting further centralization in education."

*(The Heritage Foundation: Education Notebook, June 2012)*

Common Core "does not constitute the long-term reform families, schools, and students need."

*(U.S. Representative John Kline (R-MN), Chairman of the U.S. House Education and the Workforce Committee)*

# ALABAMA LEGISLATORS THAT OPPOSE COMMON CORE



PROTECT OUR CHILDREN

U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions  
U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus  
U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers  
AL Sen. Slade Blackwell  
AL Sen. Paul Bussman  
AL Sen. Del Marsh  
AL Sen. Greg Reed  
AL Sen. Jeb Waggoner  
AL Rep. Richard Baughn  
AL Rep. Steve Clouse  
AL Rep. Wes Long  
AL Rep. John Merrill  
AL Rep. Mark Tuggle

U.S. Senator Richard Shelby  
U.S. Rep. Mo Brooks  
AL Sen. Gerald Allen  
AL Sen. Dick Brewbaker  
AL Sen. Rusty Glover  
AL Sen. Arthur Orr  
AL Sen. Clay Scofield  
AL Sen. Tom Whatley  
AL Rep. Paul Beckman  
AL Rep. Ed Henry  
AL Rep. Jay Love  
AL Rep. Barry Moore  
AL Rep. Greg Wren

U.S. Rep. Robert Aderholt  
U.S. Rep. Martha Roby  
AL Sen. Scott Beason  
AL Sen. Ben Brooks  
AL Sen. Bill Holzclaw  
AL Sen. Trip Pittman  
AL Sen. Cam Ward  
AL Rep. Jim Barton  
AL Rep. Jim Carns  
AL Rep. Lee Johnson  
AL Rep. Mary Sue McClurkin  
AL Rep. Kerry Rich

Also, Governor Robert Bentley and Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey oppose national Common Core standards  
As do State Education Board Members Stephanie Bell & Betty Peters

## ORGANIZATIONS THAT OPPOSE COMMON CORE

AL Alliance against Abortion  
AL Conservative Network  
Alabama Tea Party Express  
Athens-Limestone Patriots  
CATO Institute  
Christian Home Education Fellowship of Alabama (CHEF of Alabama)  
Common Sense Campaign  
Concerned Women for America of Alabama  
Conservative Christians of AL  
East Alabama Patriots  
Focus on the Family  
Greenville TEA Party  
Home School Legal Defense Fund  
Liberty Tea Party Patriots of Morgan County  
National Assoc. of Scholars  
Patriots of Liberty TEA Party  
Rainy Day Patriots  
Smart Girl Politics  
Washington Policy Center  
ALGOP Steering Committee  
GOP Coffee County EC.  
GOP Jefferson County EC  
GOP Mobile County EC  
GOP Tuscaloosa County EC

AL Christian Education Association  
AL Federation of Republican Women  
Alliance for Citizens Rights  
Barbour County Tea Party  
Chastain Heating & Air Conditioning  
Common Sense Tea Party Patriots of Covington County  
Covington County TEA Party  
Fairhope TEA Party  
Foundation for Moral Law  
Heartland Institute  
John Birch Society  
National Conference of State Legislators  
Pioneer Institute  
Reason Foundation  
Tea Party Patriots of Alabama  
Wetumpka Tea Party  
GOP Autauga County Executive Com.  
GOP Dale County EC  
GOP Limestone County EC  
GOP Morgan County EC  
GOP Walker County EC

AL Citizens Action Program  
Alabama Policy Institute  
Allied Women of Alabama  
Bullock County Tea Party  
Christian Educators International  
Common Sense Patriots  
Concerned Patriots Club  
Eagle Forum of Alabama  
Family Research Council  
Ft. Mitchell Patriots  
Heritage Foundation  
Lexington Institute  
Montgomery Tea Party  
Public Research Foundation  
Prattville TEA Party  
Robert O. Burton, P.C.  
U.S. Coalition for World Class Math  
Wiregrass Patriots  
Barbour County EC  
GOP Houston County EC  
GOP Madison County EC  
GOP Shelby County EC  
AL State Executive Committee