

What is Common Core?

Common Core is a set of one-size-fits-all, mandatory K-12 nationwide standards, assessments and curriculum, with a national database tracking system.

- Common Core was developed by Achieve, Inc., a non-profit organization — not by states.
- Common Core is copyrighted by two trade associations, the National Governor's Association, and National Council of Chief State School Officers (State Superintendents), which receive a large portion of their funding from the federal government. Neither parents, boards of education nor the legislature can change them!
- Common Core is an untried and untested experiment that is being foisted upon American schools, with cooperation of Alabama officials.



First ObamaCare, Now ObamaCore

The Obama Administration enticed states to sign on to Common Core as a prerequisite to get federal funds and/or to receive a waiver from parts of No Child Left Behind (NCLB).



Just as with ObamaCare, which would have never passed Congress without the bribes of federal dollars to certain states, Common Core would have never been adopted by states, which give up local control over education, without the lure of federal funds.

Do we really want private organizations in Washington, D.C., which have copyright Common Core standards, deciding what our children will be taught? This is like having the 15-member health care panel board in Washington that will have the final say in what kind of medical treatments we will be allowed.

Just as the lofty promises of ObamaCare have proven false, we are learning the same is true for Common Core.

Common Core is Unconstitutional

The 10th Amendment limits federal influence over states.

The General Educational Provisions Act forbids federal overreach by prohibiting "any department, agency, officer or employee of the United States [from exercising] any direction, supervision or control over the curriculum, program of instruction ... of any educational institution."

Invasion of Study Privacy

The Obama administration changed the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act to allow the collection of highly personal and non-academic data on students without parents' permission, and to share this data with federal agencies and private companies.

The Fallout from Common Core in Alabama

The fallout from Common Core in Alabama to date is that State Superintendent Tommy Bice has:

1. Put in place race-based standards to implement Common Core through his Plan 2020; and
2. Proposed to force church and home schools under the oversight umbrella of the Alabama Department of Education, accompanied by fees and burdensome regulations.

If we don't convince our Alabama legislators to stop Common Core, we will not only be prohibited from changing in any way what our children learn in classrooms or protect their privacy, but we will be unable to stop current or future actions as referenced above that harm our children and take away choice and competition in education.

Repeal Common Core: Then What?

Alabama should:

- Replace Common Core with higher quality, *state-controlled* academic standards and tests not funded by the federal government. Previous Alabama standards were as good as and in many ways better than Common Core standards, according to the Fordham Institute.
- Secure student data privacy through legislation.
- Ensure that national testing mandates do not affect instruction in private and home schools.
- Restore the Alabama Reading Initiative which had made Alabama #1 in reading gains in the nation for 4th through 8th grades.
- Restore the Math Initiative which had made Alabama #2 in math gains in the nation.
- Expand parental choice legislation to ensure the greatest amount of parental control over education.

How Can We STOP Common Core?

- Insist that your legislators listen to parents rather than big business interests and repeal Common Core during the 2014 Legislative Session. To find your legislator, go to <http://alabamaeagle.org/find-your-legislator>.
- Elect State School Board members in 2014 who will agree to put students' and parents' needs over corporate lobbyists and repeal Common Core.
- Insist that State Superintendent of Education Tommy Bice's race-based standards and his proposal to regulate home and private schools be ended immediately.

How Can You Learn More About Common Core?

There are many sources of information to help you learn more. Some suggested sources are:

- Alabamians United for Excellence in Education: www.auee.org
- Eagle Forum of Alabama: www.alabamaeagle.org
- Pioneer Institute: <http://pioneerinstitute.org/common-core/>
- Utahans Against Common Core: www.utahnsagainstdcommoncore.com/
- Heritage Foundation: www.heritage.org/issues/education
- Truth In American Education: <http://truthinamericaneducation.com/>

Will Parents Lose Control of Their Children



... And Their Education?

Alabama Federation of Republican Women
afrw.org