

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 have a rating as good as Common Core, but Alabama could adopt standards of states which are higher.)
- Secure student data privacy through legislation.
- Ensure national testing mandates do not affect instruction in private and home schools.
- Restore its Reading Initiative (which made Alabama #1 in reading gains in the nation for 4th through 8th grades).
- Restore its math initiative (which made Alabama #2 in math gains in the nation). Approximately \$60 million was diverted from the reading and math initiatives to implement Common Core.
- Consider legislation for school choice and voucher programs to improve schools through choice and completion and hold them accountable.

HOW CAN WE STOP COMMON CORE?

- Ask the Governor to put his full weight behind repeal.
- Ask Legislators to repeal Common Core in the 2014 session.
- Elect state school representatives in 2014 who will put student needs over corporate lobbyists and vote to repeal Common Core.
- *Ask the Governor and Legislature to immediately suspend Alabama's race-based achievement expectations that stereotype, discriminate against, and harm poor and minority students.*



WILL PARENTS LOSE CONTROL OVER THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION?

THE TRUTH ABOUT COMMON CORE: REBUTTAL TO FALSE CLAIMS



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FALSE CLAIM: There is no loss of parental control and state's rights

Alabama educators falsely claim that the state: (1) blended the best of Common Core with state-specific standards, and (2) retains control over curriculum and tests



These claims are proven false by Alabama's own documents:

- The Memorandum of Agreement
- Alabama's Courses of Study
- Alabama's Plan 2020
 - All of these documents repeatedly state that Alabama cannot modify, clarify, customize, or otherwise change the standards.
 - Alabama can add up to 15% of state-specific standards, but these cannot change in any way the Common Core standards and will not be tested.

Alabama added only 2.5% of state-specific English Language Arts standards, and approximately 14% of math standards.

CURRICULUM cannot be fully controlled by Alabama since it is based on standards and tests.

- Teachers will be evaluated on student scores, and assessments are aligned with Common Core, so teachers will of necessity teach the Common Core aligned material for their own survival.
- **TESTS must be aligned 100% with Common Core, so Alabama cannot control tests/assessments.**

FALSE CLAIM: Alabama should adopt Common Core to cater to Military Families on the move

- The simple fact is more people move within the same county/state than move across state lines, for a total of 1.7% of the population. (www.truthinamericaneducation.com/common-core-state-standards/kids-who-move-across-state-lines/) We believe military families, who sacrifice so much for freedom and equal opportunity, would be the last to request that public policy be made to benefit less than 2% of the population to the detriment of 98% of the population.

FALSE CLAIM: Alabama will not collect or share private, non-academic data

Alabama records show that the state **WILL invade student privacy by collecting highly personal, non-academic information.**

- Alabama measures students' behaviors and psychosocial attributes through ACT Engage and ACT Work Keys.
- Alabama has a system to track students and "follow them all the way through school to career and/or college."
- These assessments are in line with the U.S. Department of Education's plans to turn classrooms into laboratories to experiment on our children — for the purpose to motivate desired behavior.
 - USDOE wants to measure emotions, beliefs, attitudes, feelings
 - Recordings will be made of facial expressions, EEG brain wave patterns, skin conductance, heart wave, eye-tracking, etc.
 - Children's DNA will also be taken.



The only way to prevent spying on our children is to prohibit the collection of private, non-academic data in the first place. If data is collected, Alabama has no control over who sees it. Personal data on students will be shared, even sold.

FALSE CLAIM: Alabama needs Common Core to recruit business

Businesses move to states because of the business climate: low taxes, low property rates, right-to-work laws, low regulatory burden, work ethic, etc..

- There is no proof that Common Core plays any part in recruiting business.
 - The states of Nebraska, Texas and Virginia all have high business recruitment and rejected Common Core.
 - **Utah is ranked the #1 state for business recruitment and it has serious opposition to Common Core.**
- Alabama's PLAN 2020, which implements Common Core, has racial overtones and discriminates against poor and minority students in its standards. This harms children, and hurts our state image and business recruitment.