



The Idaho Observer

Common Core Obama-Core, coming to a school district near you!

A number of speakers and writers are coming out against the Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSSI). These initiatives are being pushed by the National Governors Association and the Obama Administration onto our public and private schools. Conservatives opposing CCSSI include: Michelle Malkin, a conservative commentator on *Fox News*, Phyllis Schlafly of Eagle Forum, Research Mom Sharon Hanek, Tom DeWeese from American Policy Center, Robin Eubanks from Inivible Serf's Collar, the Heritage Foundation, Charlotte Iserbyt, Head of Policy at the Dept. of Education under Ronald Reagan and a myriad of citizen thinkers who have had personal experience with Common Core. They all say the same thing: Common Core is not what it is being sold to us as. It is a Marxist takeover of our education system, intended to make everyone "equal," not smarter.

VP Joe Biden explained the plan clearly in his April 5, 2013 new world order speech, when he said, regarding education reform, "We have to level the playing field to make Americans competitive." In case you do not understand this remark coming from an administration pushing for amnesty for 12 to 35 million minimally educated illegal immigrants, it means, bringing America's standard DOWN to the level of everyone else in the world, so large corporations can continue to hire better educated foreign workers for less pay.

Proponents of Common Core claim that CCSSI was carefully planned by concerned state governors in individual states to help kids do better at math and reading, Educators should have been tipped off by their first step when they discarded phonics and cursive writing. State education departments consistently claim the federal government is not involved in CCSSI.

The truth is that the federal government forced CCSSI on states as part of their acceptance of stimulus package dollars. In order to receive federal stimulus dollars through the Race to the Top Grant, the federal government required that states commit to yet-to-be-written Common Core standards in math and English/Language Arts (ELA). The US Department of Education gave \$360 million dollars to two companies to develop national Common Core-aligned tests and curriculum models. The two tests are the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers Test (PARCC) and the Smarter Balanced Test (SBAC). These are the only assessments used at participating schools.

The Idaho Department of Education states that the tests were developed by "a consortium involving educators, researchers, policymakers, and community groups in a transparent and consensus-driven process to help all students thrive in a knowledge-driven global economy." These "consensus-driven" educators include Linda Darling-Hammond, who was instrumental in developing this test. She is a known radical left-winged educator and close colleague of Obama-supporter Bill Ayers, a self-described communist revolutionary, and the former leader of the communist Weather Underground.

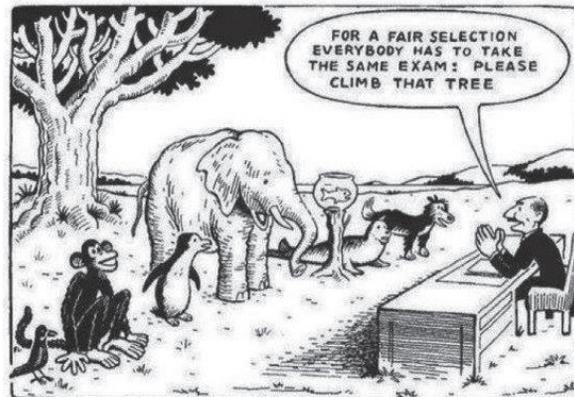
CCSSI is "Outcomes based education", a plan rejected by the US Senate

in the 1990's. According to Eubanks, CCSSI is based on a new "three Rs" - relationships, rigor, and relevance. "Relationships" are important because Core education focuses on influencing students' values, attitudes and beliefs. Also, since everyone cannot think, but all have emotions, under Common Core, "equity" - an integral part of Common Core - is accomplished using emotion-based rather than fact-based education. "Rigor" is defined as imagining a world that never was and what the student could do to create it - which would not be such a bad idea, but it is achieved through playing video games such as "Zombie Apocalypse." "Relevance" has to do with real world application.

The Core Standards website states, "A particular standard was included in the document only when the best available evidence indicated that its mastery was essential for college and career readiness in a twenty-first-century, globally competitive society... the Standards represent a synthesis of the best elements of standards-related work to date," and are "internationally benchmarked."

So what is "standards related work" and what does "internationally benchmarked" mean? Eubanks states that the standards and benchmarks are based on education plans from socialist countries. Teachers will no longer be allowed to teach facts, but must put students into groups of 3 or 4 and only group answers are allowed. Getting the answer right, as has been traditionally expected in education, is not as important as "Why am I doing this?" The benchmarks are actually lower than those currently held by several states in the union, which must lower their standards if they choose to participate in CCSSI. Some such states, like Indiana, have already decided they will not comply.

I have seen the Common Core test results plan presented at school board meetings. Those who excel in certain subjects are not encouraged to focus on the subjects in which they excel, but rather focus on those subjects where they do not excel. This way all students supposedly will end up "even" in everything.



The math instructional book for teachers *Common Core Mathematics*, grade 3 - 5), p. 137, states, "This chapter focuses on the final paradigm shift required to ensure successful CCSSI implementation...intervention [that] serves the goal of equity. ...The National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (2008) position on equity recommends that mathematics educators: Respond to equity as a meaningful process to address social justice issues of race, language, gender, and class bias..." and "recognize underachievement as ...a symptom of varying beliefs..." What does this have to do with math?

Schools and teachers are graded on student "outcomes", and awarded "stars" which affect school funding. According to Eubanks and Hanek, schools that fail can be closed down, and principals and teachers will be fired over not meeting the requisite "standard." This is one reason why it was so important to the Idaho Dept of Education to remove all teachers' rights. The other important element, "Technology for All," focuses on eliminating schoolbooks altogether, since they are "so much more expensive than computer programs," [and parents cannot look at the educational material and see exactly what the children are being taught, or whether it is contrary to their belief systems or even based on fact].

P20 (preschool to age 20) or the new standard, cradle to grave tracking

Proponents of CCSSI deny that Common Core is tied to cradle to grave tracking of our children by the federal government. The Idaho State Department of Education (SDE) website claims that data collected through CCSS "assessments" are merely academic to set goals for what each student should know and be able to do by the end of each grade level. These standards are in no way tied to the statewide longitudinal data system, The SDE states: "Idaho implemented its statewide longitudinal data system back in 2009, two years before the state chose to adopt these new standards," which just happened to be the same time it agreed to accept federal "stimulus" funds.

Arnie Duncan, the pro-homosexual Secretary of Education under Obama, is a huge proponent of CCSSI. The 2009 Stimulus bill gave the Dept of Education \$4.35 billion to fund Race to the Top (RTTT) competition/grants. By accepting this grant money, and wanting to successfully compete for RTTT, states

GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO FINE COMPANIES FOR NOT COMPLYING WITH WIRETAP ORDERS

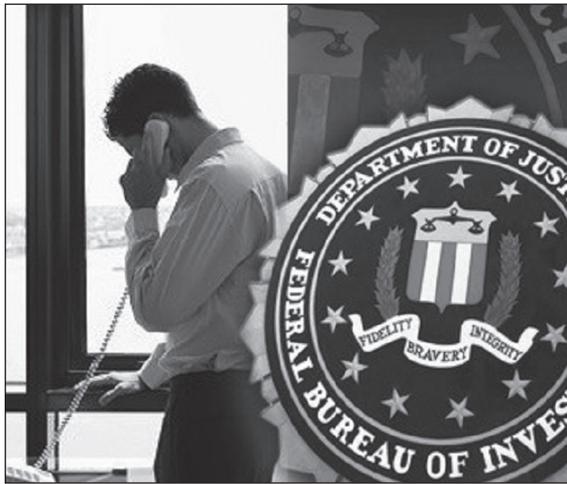


By: Charly

In the wake of false-flag 9/11, telecommunications companies gleefully complied with requests from the National Security Agency (NSA) to hand over personal details about their customers. To this day, it isn't often that communications companies push back against any police or government requests to monitor customers and hand over information about them. But wouldn't you know that Obama now has a government task force that is seeking to make it even harder for any companies who dare to say no.

The task force is pushing for legislation that would penalize companies like Google, Facebook and Skype that fail to comply with court orders for wiretapping according to *The Washington Post*. The cost of non-complying would be an escalating series of fines, starting at tens of thousands of dollars. Fines that remained unpaid after 90 days would double daily.

Unlike telecommunications companies that are required under the 1994 Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA) to have systems that are wiretap-enabled, some internet communication methods — such as social networking sites and online gaming sites — aren't easily wiretapped and are not required to enable the capability under CALEA. Companies that argue that they don't have the means to enable wiretapping have avoided complying with court orders seek-



ing real-time surveillance, the paper notes. The legislation is intended to force these companies into finding technology solutions that would enable real-time surveillance.

Microsoft reportedly applied for a patent in 2009 for a technology called Legal Intercept that would have the ability to secretly monitor, intercept and record Skype calls. Microsoft filed for the patent before it bought Skype in 2011.

The push for legislation to compel these companies to cooperate with wiretapping orders began in 2010 after Google initiated end-to-end encryption for Gmail and text messages, which made it more difficult for the FBI to intercept e-mail under a court order, the *Post* notes.

Obama government leaders want to require all communications providers — including encrypted e-mail providers, like Google, social networking sites like Facebook, and messaging and voice services like Skype — to install the technical capability for wiretapping. Officials wanted these services to provide the ability not only to intercept and record communications but to decrypt encrypted communications.

Today, if you're a technology company that's created a new and popular way to communicate, it's only a matter of time before the FBI shows up with a court order to read or hear some conversation. The old-school method of wiretapping required a court order that established some type of "reasonable need," but all of that went out the window when the PATRIOT ACT became the law of the land.

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must agree to adopt the common core standards and the national testing.

Provisions of the RTTT grant money include building a huge education system database, the "Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLEDS). The system openly shares data with the US department of Labor. Idaho has applied for federal funding to set up and expand the SLEDS. On its application, page 4, SDE states that Idaho has been collecting data on its students since 2010, and in early 2011, began assigning unique student ID numbers to the system (ED-UID). The goal for this next round of funding is to "develop a workforce database and link it to the present system, expand data elements, and pursuit of a data exchange with the department of Transportation to populate social security numbers" along with other specific goals.

The new system even plans to test pre-kindergartners. This is not to see how smart they are as much as to determine how easily their values, attitudes and beliefs can be changed.

According to local Idaho school Superintendent, Dr. Ellen Perconti, this "longitudinal data" information on our students is kept in a data bank at the state level for the federal government whenever it may be needed. She added that "data is already being collected and shared with the state."

Common Core = Socialist Education

We are not all equal. Trying to force "equity" through education has one result. It brings the intelligent students down to the level of the incapable ones. Socialism historically has never worked because it diminishes the motivation to excel or succeed, simply because those who are "doers," have their ideas and rewards stolen from them and given to those who are not. In our little school district, along with Common Core implementation, the high school has eliminated the leadership course for motivated high school students, and the upper level core science and English classes — a total of seven higher level classes.

In a republic, values, attitudes and beliefs should not be influenced by government, but by parents. What makes the US unique is intentionally undermined through Common Core - individual autonomy and entrepreneurship are discouraged in favor of group think and consensus, under the guise of "equity".

Some states are starting to wake up to the Common Core myth and pull out of the system or put a hold on the program until it can be further researched. Let's not be like Nancy Pelosi and force an education program on our already strapped schools "so we can see what's in it." Tell your state legislators to get out of Common Core now. **S**

WALL STREET'S CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR IGNORED, ISRAEL'S ENEMIES ATTACKED INSTEAD

By: Charlene Shortsleeves

Wall Street is full of "crooks," and it never properly cleaned up its act after the financial crisis of 2007 and 2008, Columbia University professor Jeffrey Sachs told a distinguished gathering of bankers and professionals in bombshell remarks at the Philadelphia Federal Reserve building in April 2013.

Sachs is one of the world's most influential economists. He says that what's behind this, is "a docile president, a docile White House and a docile regulatory system that absolutely can't find its voice." "It's financial fraud on a very large extent," the adviser to the World Bank and IMF added. "There's also a tremendous amount of insider trading — you can even watch when you are living in New York how that works."

"We have a corrupt politics to the core, I am afraid to



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