

Rotten to the Core: Reader feedback from the frontlines

By Michelle Malkin • January 31, 2013 12:54 PM

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I have more installments of my Rotten to the Core series on the federalized national curriculum “standards” coming next week. (See parts one and two [here](#) and [here](#).) In the meantime, I’m sharing several of the e-mails pouring in from teachers, parents, and activists across the country who are fighting this juggernaut across the country.

From a history teacher:

I am anxiously awaiting the next installment in your Rotten to the Core series. As a history teacher, the Common Core Standards don't have much of an impact on my teaching (yet – and to my understanding). The whole of this program seems to be shrouded in edu-speak and double talk (which are mostly the same).

In addition to the Common Core, we were given an intro to another change coming to my district... and from what I've seen, it is spreading to districts across the country. The new model for teaching is Strategic Planning Strategies (based on Cambridge Strategies), which include Applied Learning (seems similar to problem based learning – students focus on and develop a solution to a problem facing their community). We were shown a video, which listed beliefs held by my district. There were immediately a some statements that stood out, including a belief that “cultural proficiency leads to equity and removes barriers to opportunity” – especially troubling was when a teacher asked for clarification on what was meant by “cultural proficiency”, we were told by our administrator that she didn't know.

Another statement that stood out, was that we were going to educate students “from cradle to career”. I've looked up the keywords of this program and found this website (<http://www.suny.edu/educationpipeline/cradletocareer.cfm>) that seeks to use this model to form a “framework for civic infrastructure” that is based on this program...

... I see this as another path of indoctrination “from cradle to career”.

From an English teacher:

Dear Ms. Malkin,

I just wanted to email my appreciation of your scathing attack on the new Common Core standards. As a high school teacher myself, I feel inclined to share with you that I am neither a democrat, nor a republican, and I'm personally not for the whole vilification of one administration over another. The thesis of your article, however, is in the right place. I'd like to bypass the back-and-forth rhetoric of your comment thread and let you know that we teachers feel the same way you do, and we are powerless to make a change in what they will allow us to teach. (It is at this point that I must disagree with Mr. Wurman's assessment, “Moreover, there are organizations that have reasons to work for lower and less-demanding standards, specifically teachers unions' and



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Rotten to the Core, Part III: Lessons from Texas and the Growing Grassroots Revolt

March 1, 2013 09:28 AM by Michelle Malkin

39 Comments

Maxine Waters: Sequester will cost 170 million Americans their jobs

February 28, 2013 04:13 PM by Doug Powers

106 Comments



Unemployageddon

Lanny Davis: Bob Woodward's not the only reporter/columnist to get pushback from the White House

February 28, 2013 02:15 PM by Doug Powers

49 Comments



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professional teacher organizations. While they may not admit it, they have a vested interest in lowering the accountability bar for their members. . . ." We have no interest in lowering the accountability bar. We did not take up teaching for the sake of having an "easy gig".)

In fact, we were just in a department meeting for English teachers last week, and I had spoken up, asking why we can't diagram sentences. You probably would've been pleased by the number of teachers who applauded the idea before we were shot down by our department head.

It needs to be stated that there are a great many teachers who DO NOT support Common Core, yet can do nothing about it, as we are being told what to teach and how to teach it, despite our instincts otherwise. In truth, nothing is going to improve with Federal involvement in education, because any politician who would try to take down Common Core or NCLB would be committing "political suicide". Perhaps that is a point you can make in future articles?

All the best,
Chris Malone

From a school board member:

I just read the Rotten to the Core articles. I am disgusted to say the least, and worse yet, I am a school board member who did not do my homework. I was a "low information voter." We adopted the Common Core Standards by applying for Race to The Top. I had a gut feeling that if it was money from the government it couldn't be good. Unfortunately I didn't go with my gut feeling this time. I am at a loss as where to go from here. I have mentioned our English curriculum to the administrator, and he said we are going to start implementing a new curriculum.

I feel I am a minority on our board and need to start speaking up, where does one go from here? I am at a loss.

From education reform activist Dawn Llewellyn:

A new "fuzzy" math program (College Preparatory Mathematics – CPM) is being piloted in our district and likely to be voted and purchased in April. CPM teaches more social skills than mathematics. Fairfield Curriculum Leaders stress the impetus for change to this math program is the Common Core Standards...

We would love for you to cover this story... please consider it!

<http://www.ctpost.com/news/article/Fairfield-Board-of-Education-not-doing-its-job-4109282.php>

<http://fairfield.patch.com/articles/letter-why-does-school-board-allow-use-of-cpm-algebra-book>

<http://www.ctpost.com/news/article/Concern-about-math-program-4175992.php>

<http://www.ctpost.com/news/article/Fairfield-Board-of-Education-not-doing-its-job-4109282.php>

<http://www.fairfieldcitizenonline.com/news/article/Board-to-discuss-parents-concerns-about-new-4089730.php>

<http://www.fairfieldcitizenonline.com/news/article/Letter-Math-program-launched-improperly-4099431.php>

Just to fill you in—I am part of the parent advocacy group that is fighting the imminent adoption of CPM in our middle and high schools in Fairfield, CT. The district secretly implemented it without BOE approval and we're trying to challenge them on the technicality of state statutes that require BOE to approve texts. In the meantime, we're educating parents on the failure of reform math in

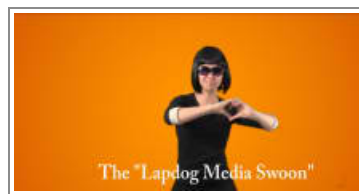


Flack took flak?

Parody video: Evolution of Liberal Dance

February 27, 2013 07:55 PM by Michelle Malkin

102 Comments



Reps. Waters and Ellison insist House debt clock be turned off during Democrat speaking time

February 27, 2013 11:51 AM by Doug Powers

51 Comments



"Political prop"

The White House Court Jesters of Sequester

February 27, 2013 08:24 AM by Michelle Malkin

200 Comments

Hagel confirmed as SecDef; Rand Paul explains 'yes' vote

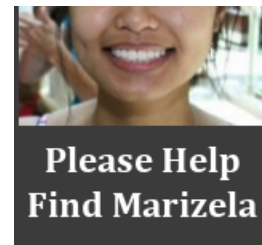
February 26, 2013 10:34 PM by Doug Powers

93 Comments



"The president has the prerogative"

Rest easy, because President Obama's paycheck is exempted from the sequester



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NewsBusters.org

» Harvard Paper Warns Conservatives Not to Enroll There If They Intend To Criticize School Later

Twitchy

» Gov. Jindal: WH is fighting Woodward instead of out-of-control spending; Time reporter sneers

Betsys Page

» The Armageddon that isn't

Twitchy

» Hilarious: Editor of The Nation boasts that her 'smart' interns 'have no idea who Woodward is'

Hot Air

» Was Kerry winging it on Syria?

Hot Air

» Video: How to win the Sequestrocalypse

Daily Caller

» Global warming cools off

AmSpecBlog

» Will Obama Administration Condemn Erdogan Over Zionism Remarks?



texts. In the meantime, we're educating parents on the failure of reform math, in particular CPM.

Unfortunately, we are up against a BOE that thinks the curriculum leaders are "experts." The curriculum leaders are justifying this transition to a new math program with Common Core and the Mathematical Practices' call for justifying one's work and critiquing others,' etc.

At all five math nights in our district, our administrators have misrepresented the practices by saying "conceptual understanding must come before skill."

Our district was recently cited in the **The Atlantic**. Barry Garelick states that "schools are adopting an inquiry method of learning, in which children are supposed to discover knowledge for themselves" but he states that districts are misinterpreting the verbiage of the common core."

Mr. Garelick also wrote to me and directed me to a comment in the blog of this article from one of the main authors of the common core standards. McCallum states that the standards do not say that conceptual understanding must come first and explicitly on page 5 of the standards it says: "these standards do not dictate curriculum or teaching methods." Our curriculum leaders continue to present misinformation to parents, either because they do not understand the common core math practices or they are intentionally misleading our community to push an alternative agenda.

(See his letter to us.) <http://fairfieldmathadvocates.com/one-size-does-not-fit-all/fairfield-district-leaders-are-misinterpreting-common-core-practice/>

CPM is a prescriptive form of teaching mathematics with social engineering as the guiding principle: social responsibility, equity, multidimensional classrooms, group think vs teacher instruction, etc. "Complex Instruction" is the guiding principles behind CPM instructional method.(see article about "complex instruction"). If this program is adopted by our district, there has and will continue to be a push to sell this program (CPM) to our surrounding districts who are also looking for ways to get students "ready for the 21st century". This program is dumbing down Mathematics!

Our group noticed that NBC recently covered a story on "Is Algebra Necessary?" with a tie in to Jo Boaler...Jo Boaler is a proponent of CPM. She and Megan Staples did a research study called RAILSIDE (an urban school in CA – San Lorenzo) with CPM. Her research is being seriously challenged by math professors (Bishop, Wayne, and Clopton) who are questioning the validity of this study. Megan Staples is a UConn Professor who has been observing Algebra I classes in our district this year (without parents' knowledge) and she is on the Fairfield Curriculum Review Committee (which is only looking at this program and nothing else). <http://video.msnbc.msn.com/nightly-news/50264372#50264372>

(See studies attached to review her study and the controversy)

Our group has spoken to numerous professors and advocacy groups on the west coast about this program, as well as advocacy groups and professors on the east coast (penfield, ny/ brandford, ct/ Yale Univeristy/ Brown University) about other reform math programs (IMP) and CPM. These programs have unproven track records, yet are still around. I urge you to look at our website www.fairfieldmathadvocates.com

From Dean Kalahar, a Florida teacher of nearly 30 years:

Michelle, (Miss Malkin), your common core work is significant.

You may use any of my research and articles to add weight and facts. I have been fighting a revisionist battle for some time. If you read the facts provided, you will be shocked. By the way, I'm a 28 year veteran teacher.

February 26, 2013 12:37 PM by Doug Powers

90 Comments



Exceptions

Reporters to Jay Carney: Is an Obama-supporting organization selling access to the president? Carney: I don't know, you'll have to ask them

February 25, 2013 10:54 PM by Doug Powers

57 Comments

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<http://freedom-choice-cost.blogspot.com/2012/02/florida-exit-exam-in-american-history.html>

<http://freedom-choice-cost.blogspot.com/2011/05/florida-high-school-exit-exams.html>

From parent activist Beth Schultz in Maine:

Dear Michelle,

Thanks so much for exposing the Common Core State Standards. Alarms when off in my head when my three children were in kindergarten, second & third grades. These were exposed to Everyday Math. I followed the money in our state (Maine) and found out how this curriculum was forced onto our public schools (via the Maine Math and Science Alliance). There was no hope of educating my School Board on my concerns with Everyday Math.

Then, I read about the Common Core State Standards. It didn't take me long to put two and two together to figure out the "big picture" concerns with the CCSS. I took a day off of work and testified AGAINST the CCSS (with 2 other parents) to the Maine Education Committee (http://www.maine.gov/legis/house/jt_com/edu.htm).

My comments are on public record. I presented to the Committee the concerns of Dr. Stotsky and Dr. Milgr[a]m. Even the Republicans on the Ed Committee didn't "get it."

They all voted in favor of Maine's adoption of the CCSS (I also met with Gov. LePage twice to warn him). I tell parents, if they want to figure out what is going on their children's education, they need to attend the state Ed Committee meetings, not their local Board Meeting. After the CCSS are implemented, there will no longer be any reason to attend local Board meeting, because parents will have NO influence in curricula or standards.

From parent activist Sue Peterson in Minnesota:

Dear Michelle,

Thank you so much for calling attention to the Common Core Standards and Race to the Top!!!

I became an activist in 1998 when NCLB was law and the standards movement started to expand nationwide.

In MN a grassroots movement that involved Michele Bachmann, helped get her elected, first as a state senator & now congresswoman.

It doesn't matter which party is the majority in D.C., the unconstitutional invasion of the education cartel nation-wide seems unstoppable.

We have at least one generation who does not know our nations founding primary documents, and I believe this is by design.

Locally we are now battling the re-writing of state social studies standards that teach America is evil. The cartel I'm sure has their hand in this.

Please! Please! Please!

Do not let this issue go away!! For the sake of our nation!

Most people aren't even aware of CCS or RTTT and the background.

You have the exposure we don't have.

Thank You!

Sue Peterson

~ For the latest breaking news, be sure to join Michelle's **e-mail list** ~

Posted in: **Education, Politics**

See what others have said

Note from Michelle: This section is for comments from michellemalkin.com's community of registered readers. Please don't assume that I agree with or endorse any particular comment just because I let it stand. A reminder: Anyone who fails to comply with my **terms of use** may lose his or her posting privilege.

Comments

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:04 pm, **doriangrey** said: #1

To understand what Rotten to the Core is, means and why it's rotten to the Core, one needs to know their history.

17. Get control of the schools. Use them as transmission belts for socialism and current Communist propaganda. Soften the curriculum. Get control of teachers' associations. Put the party line in textbooks.

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:04 pm, **rambler** said: #2

from cradle to career...

So... how exactly will "education" majors be able to accomplish that? They can't even begin to accomplish that. I'm sure that the language used was designed to sound all fluffy and good by a bunch of "social scientists" for presentation to brain dead masses. Schools will not improve without competition. If parents were at all serious about getting real change in school, they would boycott those schools and force them to change or shut down. Instead the commies and unions are forcing a bad education on the taxpayers. These children will not have any chance at a career under the current conditions.

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:06 pm, **GrnHornet** said: #3

I'm a retired teacher and my complaint was we were always reinventing the wheel. Of course it was without good teacher's input and never done long enough to see how well it works. (sacastically) We all know how wise and all knowing politicians are on every subject so why should education be any different. God, I hate the distruction of our once great, independent thinking country!!

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:14 pm, **Hangfire** said: #4

Each state should have absolute control over the education system within its' borders.

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:17 pm, **Republicanvet** said: #5

Thanks for posting these emails Michelle, it gives me hope that there are parents and TEACHERS willing to fight this lunacy.

It appears the school my daughter attends adopted this last year. This explains their new grading, which includes a Learning Behavior grade, which seems little more than a subjective guess by the teacher of how well the student is agreeing with and repeating whatever propaganda is spouted. Her math instruction is horrible, her science is opinionated global warming claptrap and her English consists of essays repeating leftist indoctrination. They review articles provided by a left-wing web site and are graded on what the important points in the

article are, and my daughter had a hard time with determining what those were because they were based on lies or half-truths.

Please keep digging!

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:23 pm, **Rogue Cheddar** said: #6

... I see this as another path of indoctrination "from cradle to career".

..to grave.

Borg Queen: Assimilation is complete.

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:24 pm, **Marshall Will** said: #7

Chris Malone said,

I just wanted to email my appreciation of your scathing attack on the new Common Core standards. As a high school teacher myself, **I feel inclined to share with you that I am neither a democrat, nor a republican**, and I'm personally not for the whole vilification of one administration over another. The thesis of your article, however, is in the right place. **I'd like to bypass the back-and-forth rhetoric of your comment thread** and let you know that we teachers feel the same way you do, and we are powerless to make a change in what they will allow us to teach.

Granted posters can get a tad surly when it comes to the Bored of Education but..? What's worth noting is here's an individual the LEAST likely to be a reg. MM reader yet still moved enough to read the link forwarded to him and compelled enough to write MM a rousing Approval!

(Could we actually be making progress..?)

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:24 pm, **air to ground** said: #8

Most general history classes in schools and college never make it past the Civil War. Its no wonder why people dont know the evils of socialism or communism in the hands of tyrants. If you dont teach the lessons of the cultural revolution and the Holocaust, and the Russian purge, students wont be skeptical about the NEW socialism.

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:32 pm, **Hangfire** said: #9

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:24 pm, air to ground said:
Most general history classes in schools and college never make it past the Civil War.

And, of course, they teach that the Civil War was all about freeing the slaves.

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:40 pm, **Dexter Alarius** said: #10

We have at least one generation who does not know our nations founding primary documents, and I believe this is by design.

Oh, it's by design, alright. Add the recent article about the professor saying we don't need the Constitution anymore and we know what they're trying to do.

Subversive forces have taken over our education system.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:10 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #11

Hangfire said:

Each state should have absolute control over the education system within its' borders.

Brah – der are tree tings wrong wid dat – da kine, and the other kine.

(Actually, I agree, but here....)

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:13 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #12

Any good teacher knows how to get the kids to understand. With a good teacher in the classroom, not one penny need be spent on some program invented by – yes – people who get millions of your tax dollars inventing new programs. Close the DOE, stop buying all this rubbish, and pay good teachers well. It's WAY simpler than they want you to believe.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:21 pm, **happyscrapper** said: #13

Hangfire said:

Each state should have absolute control over the education system within its' borders.

Then the kids here in Minnesota would be screwed! Of course, they would be in any case.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:29 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #14

happyscrapper said:

Hangfire said:

Each state should have absolute control over the education system within its' borders.

Then the kids here in Minnesota would be screwed! Of course, they would be in any case.

Once upon a time, each school district ran its own program. Parents moved into good districts out of bad districts and homeowners voted whether they wanted themselves taxed to pay for it. Taxing yourself in a good district wasn't a bad idea since property values were higher. Democrats decided to make the States responsible for education, and then the Feds, but it only made good schools mediocre. Good school "A" is unfair to crappy school "B", so we will make both schools crappy. Unless your father is President, then you can go to a fancy school, where the poor CANNOT go.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:32 pm, **cheapseat** said: #15

Our teachers gave up arithmetic 15years ago when they allowed kids to use calculators to take tests. We gave up reading about the same time when they just quit assigning reading homework (too demanding). Now we have given up writing because kids text, don u no. So without writing, reading, and arithmetic leaves lots more time for communist indoctrination.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:34 pm, **cheapseat** said: #16

PS; In the Minnesota museum, they have a copy of a high school graduation test from around 1906. I defy any college graduate from today to take that test, as I would be amazed if 25% could pass it.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:37 pm, **Lindsay** said: #17

Thanks for all you do, Michelle. Unreal.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:48 pm, **happyscrapper** said: #18

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:29 pm, AlohaGuy said:

We bought this house 40 years ago. One of the biggest criteria was that it be in a good school system. We had a neighborhood elementary school just 3 blocks away. Of course, there came the day when the great progressive idea of "busing" was thrown into the mix. I vowed that NO ONE would be busing my kids from a school that we chose and were paying taxes for...to an inner city pile of crap. I have never heard a worse idea in my life. Take your kids out of your neighborhood schools and bus in kids whose parents don't live anywhere near and who probably wouldn't be active or even interested in that wonderful neighborhood school. In the meantime, my kids would be on a bus for an hour or so each day instead of walking 3 blocks. I'm not sure what regressive moron thought up that piece of crap...I think maybe it was Ted Kennedy?

Fortunately, the busing did not get to our community. If it had...we would have yanked our kids out and even moved if we had to.

I am so glad my kids are done with school because the local schools are pretty far gone. Their High School has been pretty much taken over by inner city kids being bussed in. In my youngest daughter's senior year, she was having trouble navigating down the hallways because the gangs congregated in the middle and refused to move. They had their Asian gangs, their Black gangs, their Hispanic gangs. And none of them were up to any good.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:49 pm, **Elm Creek Smith** said: #19

In fact, we were just in a department meeting for English teachers last week, and I had spoken up, asking why we can't diagram sentences. You probably would've been pleased by the number of teachers who applauded the idea before we were shot down by our department head.

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All the best,
Chris Malone

This is why people can't understand the Second Amendment! It is also the reason that what passes for speech amongst the younger crowd is unintelligible.

ECS

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:50 pm, **NavyGal** said: #20

But this is all for the children, doncha know. There has to be a level playing field where everyone can be the star quarterback and/or head cheerleader.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:57 pm, **lariviere** said: #21

I've never worked as a high school teacher, but I can recommend books that teach math. Anything published by The Art of Problem Solving. Also the

introductory and advanced algebra books published in the late nineteenth century by Charles Smith (a math professor at Cambridge) and by Hall & Knight.

-A physics student.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:58 pm, **valleygreaser** said: #22

The parents, not the feds, state, county, nor anyone else, should be responsible for their kids' education. In about 15 minutes my granddaughter will be arriving here at my house. I am her algebra teacher. Her older sister was also homeschooled by her parents, with help from me and my son. She is now in college making straight A's.

On January 31st, 2013 at 2:59 pm, **happyscrapper** said: #23

God bless you, Michelle for your work on this issue. It definitely IS one of the most important things we should be focusing on right now. If we lose any more children to progressive indoctrination, all will be lost. THEY are the future of this country and they MUST be taught well!

On January 31st, 2013 at 3:01 pm, **RedDog** said: #24

** Give me four years to teach the children and the seed I have sown will never be uprooted.*

** Give us the child for 8 years and it will be a Bolshevik forever.*

** Democracy is indispensable to socialism.*

** The goal of socialism is communism.*

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin

On January 31st, 2013 at 3:03 pm, **Republicanvet** said: #25

OT but just WOW!

ATF screws up badly in a botched gun sting op in Milwaukee.

Michelle or Doug you have got to give a look at this.

<http://m.jsonline.com/topstories/189126461.htm>

On January 31st, 2013 at 3:04 pm, **Marshall_Will** said: #26

AlohaGuy said,

Close the DOE, stop buying all this rubbish, and pay good teachers well.
It's WAY simpler than they want you to believe.

That's the drum we need to keep BEATING on. I really believe that. Progs, be they Prog Enforcers like the po-po or PEU/teacher union mbrs. always want to draw you into some "Well it isn't as *simple* as all that!" web of deceit from which there is no return. Even pretending to entertain their fantasies can be fatal.

Everything about their speech patterns to carefully coded dog sirens are all about drawing you in. With as fast as they can spin, in a matter of minutes all you'll be able to hear is Vincent Price's almost inaudible squeaky voice chirping; "help me... help me".

On January 31st, 2013 at 3:05 pm, **Hadenough** said: #27

Simple solution->Home school.

On January 31st, 2013 at 3:06 pm, **RedDog** said:

#28

On January 31st, 2013 at 1:04 pm, doriangrey said:

To understand what Rotten to the Core is, means and why it's rotten to the Core, one needs to know their history.

In 1958 Cleon Skousen, conservative American constitutionalist and Mormon apologist wrote a book called The Naked Communist. In which he outlined the Marxist strategy to destroy the United States of America from the inside out. U.S. Congressman Albert S. Herlong, Jr. of Florida, on January 10, 1963 read into the US Congressional Record a list compiled from The Naked Communist detailing the steps that the Marxist planned to take to achieve exactly that goal.

Bingo.

On January 31st, 2013 at 3:23 pm, **DesertLover** said:

#29

Early Evening Everyone,

Due to a family commitment I am posting the **Evening PoD** early ... enjoy ...



On January 31st, 2013 at 3:34 pm, **Hangfire** said:

#30

On January 31st, 2013 at 3:23 pm, DesertLover said:
Due to a family commitment I am posting the Evening PoD early

Thanks, DL. Sorry to hear you're having a family member committed.

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:05 pm, **rocketman** said:

#31

School has certainly been "dumbed down" since my 1947-1959 Public School, 1959-1964 University BSEE stint, and my 1976-1980 MSEE 1 class per semester work. I was really surprised how things had changed when I helped my kids with their work through Public School and University tasks.

The C**P really hit the fan when my 2 sons entered their first semester at the Medical College of Wisconsin. It was like "old school" on steroids! They finally realized what I had been explaining to them about "old days" tough courses during their earlier educations. They recovered well during their second semester and did well for the rest of Med School, Internship, and Residency.

The Department of (Liberal!) Education bears a lot of the blame for these problems. The money diverted to their bureaucracy and it's political agendas has made it harder for local schools and universities to provide good educations. The DOE should be shut down stat.

I still remember the excellent teachers who helped me through school. Very few were poorly educated or incompetent. And I don't remember any political or "feel good" agendas from them—or the schools—either. Just lots of hard work and useful and practical learning by me. I still think of them and thank them for their work educating me—most of them are probably long gone now.

John Bibb

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:12 pm, **knucklehead** said: #32
DL #29 – All of your PoD's for today are right on target! Thanks.
Hangfire #30 – LOL.
Forward, comrades!
k

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:21 pm, **knucklehead** said: #33
BTW if you doubt how far our edumacation system has come in the past 200+ years just go back and read some of the writings of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton etc. Better have your dictionary and thesaurus nearby because you will likely be needing them. Many of these founders were home schooled or had very little formal education and their vocabularies were still far greater than the college grads coming out of Indoctrinate U. these days.
Forward, comrades!
k

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:26 pm, **swmntman** said: #34

Hangfire said:...Each state should have absolute control over the education system within its' borders.

Now just hold on there, Hangfire! Federal control of education is right there in the Constitution... I'm sure if it... right next to the part about abortion rights... I know it's there somewhere. (do I need to put the /sarc tag on this or are we good?)

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:28 pm, **valleygreaser** said: #35
Higher pay for liberals to brainwash and bully our children is not the solution.

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:30 pm, **RedDog** said: #36

On January 31st, 2013 at 3:34 pm, Hangfire said:
Thanks, DL. Sorry to hear you're having a family member committed.

Get them before they get you.

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:36 pm, **RedDog** said: #37

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:12 pm, knucklehead said:
DL #29 – All of your PoD's for today are right on target! Thanks.
Hangfire #30 – LOL.
Forward, comrades!
k

“... turbocharger... fully semi-automatic... scary part”

“You can't write laws about stuff you know nothing about.”

“Why not? We did it with healthcare.”

LOL

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:38 pm, **RedDog** said: #38

After all these years Libs are still ignorant about how rifles, pistols, and shotguns work. They don't know enough to even present a cogent argument.

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:55 pm, *valleygreaser* said: #39

After all these years Libs are still ignorant about how rifles, pistols, and shotguns work.

True, but they are in the forefront of recognizing the dangers of soap bubbles, nerf darts and paper cutouts.

On January 31st, 2013 at 6:25 pm, *Hangfire* said: #40

On January 31st, 2013 at 4:55 pm, valleygreaser said:
True, but they are in the forefront of recognizing the dangers of soap bubbles, nerf darts and paper cutouts.

Don't forget the lethality of the dreaded Lego pistol.

On January 31st, 2013 at 11:43 pm, *Patronedheart* said: #41

You could send your kids to the DMV every day and they'd probably learn more than the same amount of time spent in a public school classroom. Who ever thought it was a good idea to have the government involved in the administration of our children's education? They can't find their posterior with both hands and I'm expected to believe that they're going to prepare my child for a high paying career requiring a highly technical college degree? Sorry, but my kid is NOT going to be some loser community organizer, and I'm not going to rob them of a bright future by letting public screwels babysit them till they're 18.

On February 1st, 2013 at 9:59 pm, *plymouthacclaim* said: #42

This lets me know we made the right decision to homeschool. Not that I doubted it.

On February 2nd, 2013 at 1:14 am, *gmatt2003* said: #43

Sorry, I'm a bit late checking in here. Yes, the "Everyday Math" curriculum is a joke. It doesn't build on Math concepts, it presents ideas that students may or may not encounter in further grades, without getting students to master any kind of skills. The idea of "Everyday Math" is that students will be exposed to different concepts in a kind of spiral pattern so they will gradually learn all the different parts of Math.

I think this is hogwash. Math especially builds upon prior concepts.

These "educators" have too much time on their hands to come up with all kinds of wacky theories.

I tutor kids in Math, and I just tell them how to get the answer. They don't care about all the "theory" behind the problems.

Just sayin'...

On February 2nd, 2013 at 2:28 pm, *rocketman* said: #44

HI GMATT_2003-#43. Big differences between the way mathematicians and engineers think. I did far better understand math when it was tied to a physical concept--missiles accelerating, turning, responding to "G" and aerodynamic forces, etc. With lots of approximations and numerical analysis type empirical data tables providing real inputs that didn't model very well mathematically.

If you can graph a function—you can always find the derivatives and integrals of the function. Even if you can't solve it with traditional calculus or differential equations. I got a lot of mileage out of Simpson's Rule and practical LaPlace Transform work on complex problems. Numerical analysis helps a bunch also.

A problem was presented to a mathematician and an engineer for their consideration. A really friendly beautiful naked woman was at one side of a room with her back to the wall. The problem was that in order to enjoy her charms one of the guys had to start with his back to the wall at the other side of the room.

The rule for moving was that each move to reach the woman only allowed moving half the remaining distance to her. The mathematician threw up his hands and gave up, saying, "This is an impossible problem without a solution since there will always be half the remaining distance left to cover. It is impossible to ever reach her!"

The engineer got his turn next. He also knew that it was impossible to get zero distance. But he also knew that he could get close enough to the girl to get the job done!

Theoretical vs. practical approaches all over again.

John Bibb

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