

Emilia Sykes has supported the government being in charge of educating our children instead of parents. She backed intrusive regulatory standards for education that have failed students and excluded parents.

**Emilia Sykes has supported Common Core, which is a set of intrusive and regulatory standards for education that have failed students and excluded parents:**

- **Emilia Sykes has supported Common Core.** “Emilia Sykes and Frank C. Comunale have similar views on women’s rights, collective bargaining, social justice and accessible health care. They both understand the critical role education plays in job placement and job creation. They both support the Common Core, the new statewide academic and testing standards.” (Plain Dealer, “[Ohio House Dist. 34: Emilia Sykes](#),” 4/30/14)
- **“Common Core, a national set of educational standards adopted in 2010, established reading and math benchmarks that children must reach from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.”** (“Why parents struggle with Common Core math: ‘The diagrams are absolutely insane,’” [The Mercury News](#), 6/17/18)
- **The government “had a role in overseeing ‘implementation’ of the standards” of Common Core.** “The Common Core was dropped into a federally dictated system under the No Child Left Behind Act that required accountability based on state standards and tests, so Washington did have a role in overseeing ‘implementation’ of the standards. And since what is tested for accountability purposes is what is supposed to get taught, it is very deceptive to say, simply, curriculum ‘is created by districts and states.’ The curricula states create is supposed to be heavily influenced by Core, and especially the math section pushes specific content. Indeed, the Core calls specifically for instructional “shifts.” Oh, and the federal government selected and funded two consortia of states to create national tests – the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) and the Smarter-Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) – which the Department of Education, to at least some extent, oversaw.” (Neal McCluskey, “Getting the Common Core (and Federal) Facts Right,” [CATO Institute](#), 3/15/16)
  - **The Obama Administration “did everything it could to push states to sign on” and adopt Common Core standards.** “One common conservative criticism of the Common Core is that the federal government forced states to adopt the standards. While states weren’t explicitly required to use the Common Core, the Obama administration did everything it could to push states to sign on.” (Libby Nelson, “The Common Core, explained,” [Vox](#), 7/23/15)
  - **The federal government incentivized states to join Common Core and provided financial benefits “to groups writing standardized tests based on the Common Core.”** “But the federal government did offer big incentives for states who wanted the opportunity to compete for federal money. They also gave grants to groups writing standardized tests based on the Common Core.” (Libby Nelson, “The Common Core, explained,” [Vox](#), 7/23/15)
- **Common Core caused America’s reading and math scores to decline, and “has actually hurt the students it was most intended to help.”** “With trenchant analysis, buttressed by powerful, easy-to-read graphics, Rebarber shows that since the advent of Common Core,

slow but steady yearly gains in math and reading have been turned into sustained national declines in student achievement. In other words, whereas America's reading and math scores had once been headed up, Common Core has brought them down. What's worse, declines in test scores have been sharpest for the bottom half of the student population. The whole point of Common Core was to strengthen the performance of low-achieving students relative to the top-of-the-pack. So Common Core has actually hurt the students it was most intended to help." (Stanley Kurtz, "Common Core Has Failed. Now What?," [National Review](#), 4/30/20)

- **Common Core has been deemed to be “an intolerable intrusion of the federal government into local control of schools.”** “Today, the Common Core is not only on the public radar, but the focus of a growing nationwide resistance from an unusual coalition of right-wingers, liberals, teachers, and parents, for a variety of very different reasons. The Tea Party, dubbing the standards as "Obamacore," paints them as an intolerable intrusion of the federal government into local control of schools. Parents sick of the testing culture are drawing a line with the new Core assessments, and some states are balking at the increased time and costs of these tests. Teachers' unions are split: Some local groups, including the Chicago Teachers Union and the New York State United Teachers, oppose the new standards entirely, while the two national unions – the National Educators Association (NEA) and the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) – support the Core but want delays in implementation.” (Elaine Mcardle, “What Happened to the Common Core?,” [Harvard Ed. Magazine](#), Fall 2014)
  - **Those who opposed Common Core “argued that the federal government had violated laws that prohibit it from mandating what’s taught in classrooms.”** “States’-rights backers argued that the federal government had violated laws that prohibit it from mandating what’s taught in classrooms. But common-core advocates pushed back, noting that federal officials had no role in writing the standards, and that encouraging their adoption violated no laws.” (Catherine Gewertz, “The Common Core Explained,” [Education Week](#), 9/30/15)
- **“A critical group was left behind in the push to implement Common Core: parents.”** “Eight years after California adopted new standards designed to boost students’ critical thinking and analytical skills, it’s become clear that a critical group was left behind in the push to implement Common Core: parents.” (“Why parents struggle with Common Core math: ‘The diagrams are absolutely insane,’” [The Mercury News](#), 6/17/18)
  - **“Certainly there is a huge gap to be bridged if parents are supposed to be part of the learning process.”** (“Why parents struggle with Common Core math: ‘The diagrams are absolutely insane,’” [The Mercury News](#), 6/17/18)
- **Parents feared that their children would “fall even further behind other countries.”** “Sinha fears that Common Core will cause American students to fall even further behind other countries. The U.S. ranked 38th out of 71 countries in math in 2015, according to the most recent results of an international student assessment that measures reading and math ability. ‘If we want our kids to compete against people from China and India,’ says Sinha, who works in pricing strategy in the high-tech industry, ‘we need to stick to the traditional mental math shortcuts.’” (“Why parents struggle with Common Core math: ‘The diagrams are absolutely insane,’” [The Mercury News](#), 6/17/18)

- **“Most parents of public school students view the Common Core negatively than positively, according to Gallup, and the standards’ opponents are an unusually politically diverse group.”** “More parents of public school students view the Common Core negatively than positively, according to Gallup, and the standards' opponents are an unusually politically diverse group. The standards are opposed by many parents, by conservative Republicans, and by members of teachers unions and other groups on the left who are concerned about standardized testing.” (Libby Nelson, “The Common Core, explained,” [Vox](#), 7/23/15)