

The Dumbing Down of Maryland

MSPAP

Maryland's Experiment on our Children

The Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP) is statewide test of 3rd, 5th & 8th graders. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is now spending over \$30 Million in **taxpayers' \$\$\$** money just on the development of the new high school test. This test will be a graduation requirement and will replace the functionals. The MSPAP, with its curriculum, affects **ALL** public school children; Pre-K through grade 12.

So... What's the Big Deal??

The MSPAP test is driving school curriculum across the State of Maryland. Individual basic skills (reading, phonics, math and facts) are being replaced by "feel good," fluffy group activities. Individual student achievement and accountability are sacrificed for the good of the school. **Have you noticed this, too?**

The MSDE Says....

"Basic Skills are No Longer Important!"

In Los Angeles, California, a similar type of test -- called the **CLAS Test** -- was thrown out! **Why? Because parents stood together and did not allow their children to take the test.**

Important Facts to Remember:

1. MSPAP is designed to test schools, NOT individual students..... **Why??**
2. MSPAP curriculum teaches attitudes, feelings, empathy, behaviors, opinions and values..... **Why??**
3. MSPAP tests our children on their opinions and attitudes and then **GRADES THEM**.....**How?**
4. Parents are forbidden to see the actual test that their child takes. **What's the big secret?**
5. Most parents receive no score for their child's participation in the test -- and when they do, the scores are meaningless..... **Why??**
6. Some elected officials, including Del. Janet Greenip (R-Anne Arundel Co.), have introduced legislation opposing MSPAP.
7. The test is not nationally recognized.
8. The MSDE **IGNORES** parents' letters, comments & concerns regarding the test and curriculum..... **Why??**
9. Parents have given away their rights to oversee their children's education: The State has MSPAP participation mandatory for YOUR child. **It's the Law!**

**** THIS IS NOT A CLOSED ISSUE ****

Call your State Senators and State Delegates

(800) 492-7122 (410) 841-3000

Parents Taking Back Their Children

If you have any questions or concerns, call a fellow parent in your area.....

Kathy Yuill (Baltimore City) 410-254-6996
Mary Roig (Baltimore City) 410-426-3263
Shirley Gibberson (Baltimore Co.) 410-592-5988
Cindy Murphy (Baltimore Co.) 410-252-0461
Doug Steigler (Baltimore Co.) 410-922-1008
Peggy Silver (Baltimore Co.) 410-343-1335

Greg Jollie (Carroll Co.) 410-751-6146
Colleen Liposchak (Frederick Co.) 301-865-0381
Paula Espinoza (Harford Co.) 410-515-7663
Pat Dennis (Princes George's Co.) 301-423-1713
Marirose Capozzi (Queen Anne's Co.) 410-643-2421