

(Date goes here)

Dear (principal's name goes here),

First off, I would like you to know how much I appreciate your dedication to our school and the love that you have for our students --particularly for my children. I also greatly appreciate my children's teachers and how they daily go above and beyond their call of duty to teach them. You certainly have an incredible staff.

With that being said, I must let you know with a heavy heart about the great concern I have regarding the new Common Core Standards and related AzMerit test. While a few of the standards may be an improvement upon the AIMS, I cannot honestly support them and feel they go against every moral fiber of my being.

After doing much research, I have found that the CCSS were not state-led and were brought to us by non-government agencies, corporations, textbook companies, standardized testing consortiums, and education reformers who have been advocating a national curriculum for decades. These were conspiring people who brought Common Core to us for the purposes of money and power. What is even worse is that our sweet, innocent children will have personally identifiable information collected on them via the American Institute for Research through taking the AzMerit test which will be reported back to the federal government and stored in the State Wide Longitudinal Database (hosted by the U.S. Department of Education). This data will be shared with myriad corporations and organizations that helped create and implement the Common Core. As a parent, I cannot let this happen and will need to assert my 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment Constitutional right in order to protect my children from this data mining procedure. It is also a parent's state constitutional right to not let their children participate in any school activity that they morally object to, as stated in A.R.S 15-102.

With the hope that you understand, I would like to inform you that it is my moral obligation to my children, myself, and my country to refuse to allow my children to take the AzMerit test. I am aware that the Arizona Department of Education has stated that I do not have this right by citing a former Attorney General's opinion. However, I must make you aware that there are some problems with this opinion. First, former A.G. Tom Horne had a conflict of interest since he was also the former SPI that originally signed on to the CCSS. Tom Horne has a reputation for dishonesty and corruption and is not a reputable source for a parent's rights. Second, the U.S. Constitution and Arizona State Statutes transcend a former Attorney General's opinion.

Since I am not allowing my children to participate in taking the AzMerit, then the question remains as to what my children should do during that time. I hope to work with my children's teachers to come to an acceptable arrangement --such as silent reading or review worksheets. If this is not possible, then I will be able to keep my children at home during testing times and review prior math and spelling lessons with them.

As a parent and patriot, I hope that others will take a stand against this immoral money and power grab and do everything within their power to restore local control over our education system and children's data.

Thank you for your time and interest in my concerns.

With much appreciation,

(Your signature goes here)