

# 1. As opposed to adapting national standards, should Iowa maintain its autonomy? -

## Comments

1. I we don't adopt the common core we will all have to rewrite our standards again and again.
2. I agree with national standards
3. It is great to have some autonomy, but this should not / does not need to be in opposition to adapting national standards.
4. Yes, it is important that those closest to the student have the ability to determine what is taught.
5. Top down approach never works. People at the local level know what is best for them.
6. I think the local communities should make those decisions.
7. Unless the national standards are by content area, i.e. National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, etc.
8. We should not adopt common core and in turn nationalize what should be a state issue.
9. Having standards is important, but Iowa should decide what standards are best for our students. If we want to people in Iowa, we need to make sure our schools are focusing on Iowa needs.
10. I guess the government is trying to make us do so much already. Do they really need to control our schools as well?
11. When we are all held accountable for education, the standards give us an equal playing field.
12. Things out of Washington are wrong. Does Iowa recognize that? If Iowa wants the best education, get off the backs of the teachers and let them teach. Get God back in the classroom and post the Ten Commandments at every school entrance. Without God, there are no morals. Don't people understand that?
13. Kids now days are very mobile with their families. It would be better to have national standards so we are all learning the same things. Just as we learn about the Common Core it will be changed to something else.
14. Our standards were too relaxed and our assessment was not valid. There were too many variables that were not controlled and teachers cheated. The Smarter Balance-new assessments are cheat proof.
15. We should, as a nation, want the same education for all of our children, and we should expect the highest standards.
16. While I hate national control, we have such a transient population that many students suffer when moving from state to state. Would national standards help bridge the learning gaps for transitory students?
17. I do feel that we should be teaching the same things at the same grade levels. I feel that it would be beneficial, especially when we get students from other states. But, I also feel that in implementing this we are not taking into consideration the lower level learning students, the one's that try as hard as they can and still will never score over a C grade. I'm afraid that all this is doing is making it even more so that we are teaching to a standardized test.
18. Schools will still be able to maintain autonomy with what content they teach with regards to the Common Core Standards. It provides a common experience for all students and more stability. Iowa schools can still get choice with WHAT they teach, not the skills.
19. How will US ever get on same page if we all don't teach the same core?
20. I don't think there is anything wrong with having a national curriculum, but I doubt if all states are in the same place. What Iowa kids need may not be what other kids need.
21. We have already borrowed many National standards, and we have a workable tool in place. What started as a good idea, has Gov. poking in and making it a paper trail
22. It seems that the more national criteria we get the lower our scores become.
23. Our scores have been slipping in recent years so we do need to make changes.
24. it is too hard to be "different" in today's world. If go with national supports, examples are in place for teachers to use rather than reinventing their own wheel.
25. In S PED
26. We need to be able to let kids migrate between states
27. I trust the leaders in Iowa to make educational decisions far more than those that are in Washington! Iowa's know what's best for Iowa's!!!
28. We will be compared to the national standards if we want them to or not.
29. Although I do not believe our country should have a mandatory curriculum, the benefit if adopting the common core standards is if students move from one state to another they are receiving the same or similar instruction and expectations.
30. It will be tied to fed money so no.
31. I am undecided. With the mobile society we live in some uniformity seems appropriate. On the other hand I value autonomy and have been proud of Iowa's independence.
32. We have tried to do that for the past 15 years or more and it has not worked. It has created more work and confusion for teachers. As a mother, I want my daughter to be competitive with national and international students.
33. But they are taking it way over the top. It has been done in other states for decades without all the additional pieces
34. Let teachers teach creatively!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

35. Iowa needs to devote more resources to education the average and above average students instead of focusing almost exclusive on the lower ability students. It is impossible to close the achievement gap without limiting how high the most capable learners can reach. Unfortunately, right now, we are limiting the best and brightest by channeling time and resources into an impossible task.
36. When we had local control, we were always at the top of the nation's education!
37. The more control we have over this madness the better. We were told yesterday though that the national branch is "dangling" carrots that guide you to choose their choice. Example: Iowa can choose to start taking the SMARTER BALANCE test this year and only need 80% of the students to be proficient, or can choose to wait a year, but then the students would have to be 100% proficient.
38. I feel national standards should be used to help guide state programs but national programs should not control what is taught in each state due to different populations and needs of families and students.
39. I like a bit of both. I think we should have broader national concept standards, with local autonomy over detailed content standards and benchmarks.
40. Education decisions are the state and local governments place. The Federal Government has over stepped its bounds.
41. We need to teach to all the students. All learn at different levels and speed.
42. And have higher standards the core
43. Each state should choose the education standard they follow. I believe it is wrong to have a national standard.
44. You can't have the same rules for Iowa as you do for inner cities like Chicago.
45. I think Iowa has some of its own standards but if our nation is able to adopt the same standards across the board and then get certification to exceed those standards to push students to the next level we should be able to do that. Not that I want our federal government to tell us what is right and wrong about education, but I feel like everyone should be on the same page no matter where they are from. That would unify our education system.
46. The idea of a national core makes student transfer from state to state easier, but in general, I don't like the idea of the government dictating what we teach. This should largely be a state decision.
47. I believe maintaining freedom for schools, parents, educators, and communities is critical to maintaining limited government our founders set up. Common Core is clearly a federal take-over of education and is being implemented under the cover of darkness from the public. Any change such as this should come from Congress (federal level) or the state legislator. These bodies are to represent the people. Rights of local states, communities, parents, and school districts are being trampled on.
48. Too many educators allowed to teach their own thing with little focus on essential skills. Administrators are not leaders in conveying priorities for learning. In my opinion
49. I think all states should work towards teaching the same common core classes. A student should be able to move to another state and be in relatively the same spot in his or her learning.
50. I think the national standards should be used, but more stringent standards should be added to the national standards where appropriate.
51. The common core has some great aspects, pertaining to students that are college bound, but it is a legalistic nightmare for students that are on a different path, or students that have learning disabilities.
52. I think some of the methods pushed conflict with my personality and teaching style.  
I'm glad the governor said that families are still important in this process and textbook decision is still at the local level.
53. Every aspect of American life is going global, which takes away from everybody's individuality. It would be great if education could stay at the state level, but I have a feeling that Iowa will have to follow the money.  
I said no because it will happen anyway.  
As long as the teacher keeps caring for her students, learning will happen.
54. We are one of the best systems in the country. Let's keep it that way and not follow other gimmicks in education.
55. The Common Core is fine as long as it is Iowa by teachers in Iowa. It is a good system, before I retired I put my U.S. History curriculum into the system, it was easy and was easy for our department to share and compare.
56. The Iowa Core lacked the detail and clarity that the Common Core has. For science, the Next Generation Science Standards will help Iowa students obtain much more useful knowledge than the Iowa Core did.
57. We need to be LOCALLY controlled!
58. States should have MORE power than Fed!!!
59. I am not opposed to adopting national standards but I am opposed to those being mandated on states. Every state should maintain its autonomy. We should be able to choose to accept or reject.
60. Local control is always the preference. The more local, the more preferred, except in exceptional situations.
61. Local control is always best. The national standards are worse than the Iowa Core because some of what is taught has no relevance for our 21st Century learner who want to be global citizen.
62. Having a statewide curriculum is not a bad thing. Students will be able to transfer from school to school and be receiving the same education throughout the state. In science the change was needed because many students were not being exposed to earth, physical or space science.
63. No, we have to have some semblance of order on education in this nation.