

## Focus on Teaching and Learning, Not Testing

In the current climate of insufficient funding and raised standards, more harm than good is done if we do not address the misuse on standardized testing. Specifically, the Alliance for Quality Education supports:

- A moratorium on high stakes consequences associated with testing for all students, teachers, and schools until there is adequate funding and adequate time to gain deep understanding and knowledge of new material.
- A ban all Pre-Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade standardized testing. In these early grades, the focus should be on learning through developmentally appropriate methods rather than test in ways that are inappropriate.
- A reduction of the amount of testing in schools so there is more teaching and learning rather than testing.
- Strong opposition to InBloom or other data sharing proposals and strictly ensure the protection of student and family privacy.
- Students with disabilities and English Language Learners should be not subject to developmentally inappropriate testing.
- Equitable funding to ensure all students have access to a high quality education, which includes access to art, music, etc, college preparatory and college level classes.

TESTS SHOULD:	TESTS SHOULD NOT:
✓ Challenge students to discuss and solve complex problems	<del>✗</del> Be the focus of the school day
✓ Reinforce depth and breadth of new knowledge	<del>✗</del> Determine school funding
✓ Inform teachers on how to tailor instruction	<del>✗</del> Decide how schools are ranked or which are closed
✓ Measure student progress as part of a holistic snapshot of learning, including student portfolios and class projects	<del>✗</del> Be used to rank or fire educators <del>✗</del> Become the end-all-be-all of what kids need to know

