

## **OPTIONS FOR PARENT ACTION**

**Want to resist the over-use and misuse of standardized testing?  
Not sure what to do?**

### ***Possible First Steps***

- Discuss testing with your child's teacher and principal. If you feel comfortable, express your concerns.
- Ask questions about testing at parent/teacher conferences and PTA and School Leadership Team (SLT) meetings.
- Talk with other parents about testing.
- Ask your child's teacher for a calendar of all required tests for the school year.
- Look at your child's homework – is it engaging, stimulating? Is it teaching test taking skills? Observe your child's interaction with their homework.

### ***Bring It Up a Notch***

- Attend a forum on high-stakes testing.
- Ask if the Community Education Council (CEC) in your district is addressing high-stakes testing.
- Organize a parent group in your school or district.
- Write to your elected officials and sign petitions.

### ***Take a Stronger Stance***

- Request that your child's teacher create a portfolio of his/her work throughout the year as an alternative means of assessing your child's performance.
- Opt your child out of the spring tests (find information about how to do this at [changethestakes.org](http://changethestakes.org)).
- Get involved with Change the Stakes or other groups working on testing reform.
- Speak out against high-stakes standardized tests to other parents, policymakers and the media.
- Organize other parents in your child's school or district to opt out of the tests.

**Resistance is personal and can be original.**

**Join the movement to fight high-stakes testing!**

*Change the Stake, a group of New York City parents and educators,  
promotes alternatives to high stakes-testing.*

[changethestakes.org](http://changethestakes.org)