



EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE

Witness Form

Today's Date 12/12/17

Name: Lori Snyder-Lowe

Address: 65 W. Union Ave., P.O. Box 509  
McConelsville, Ohio 43756

Telephone: 740-962-2782

Organization Representing: Morgan Local School District

Testifying on Bill Number: 216

Testimony:  Verbal  Written  Both

Testifying As:  Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party

Are you a Registered Lobbyist?  Yes  No

Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# SB 216 TESTIMONY

December 12, 2017

Dear Chair Lehner, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Sykes, and Members of the Senate Education Committee,

I am writing to offer testimony in support of SB 216. I have written letters and talked to legislators in the past regarding the numerous unfunded mandates that have been placed on local school districts and the continuing financial and operational pressures that these mandates place on us. Consequently, I see SB 216 as a “breath of fresh air” and fully support the initiatives to “roll back” some of these requirements.

One of these areas is the proposal to give districts the option to choose what is best for their students – online or paper/pencil testing.

Regarding test content – I have attached a few examples of the differences between online and paper/pencil tests. As you can see, if you take the paper/pencil test, you have a 25% chance to get the correct answer - due to multiple choice selections. However, if you take the online test, you must calculate the answers and fill in the blank – you completely lose a 25% chance of getting the answer correct.

Regarding format – The online version causes the students to scroll down and up to view data on graphs, charts, reading passages and spreadsheets (losing sight of the headers/topics and questions each time they scroll up or down). Meanwhile the paper/pencil tests provide the students with the ability to view the entire spreadsheet and question at the same time – students never lose sight of the question, data, reading passage, etc. It is much easier to answer questions correctly if you can see the question and data at the same time.

Regarding access - Obviously, the online version creates a big disadvantage for students from high poverty districts who have less exposure to computers and technology. Although districts have been working to expand technology access and training for students, we are still not at the threshold where our students can compete in an online environment. Many of our students do not have access to WIFI and technology at home and this adds to the disadvantage of online testing.

Regarding report card validity – Based on these factors – test content, format and access – districts’ report cards are not comparable. By using different test questions and different formats/delivery methods, it is impossible to compare the achievement levels of students or districts.

I realize that Superintendent DeMaria testified that districts are given the option of a waiver to choose paper/pencil tests. However, we are a direct example that this is **not** true. Morgan asked to use paper/pencil testing last year and we were denied that opportunity.

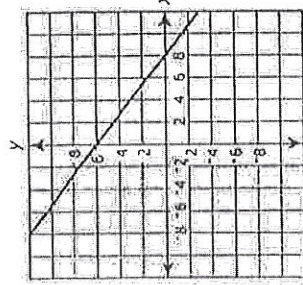
With this in mind, SB 216 gives districts the option to choose what works best for their students. In some districts, online testing may be the best option, but in other districts – especially high poverty districts – paper/pencil may be the best option. It makes sense to allow the districts the autonomy to decide what is best for their children.

I appreciate your consideration of this important piece of legislation. I truly believe that the many initiatives in this bill will improve educational opportunities for students.

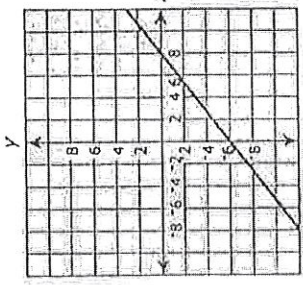
Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. If you have any questions now or in the future, I am more than happy to speak with you.

Paper

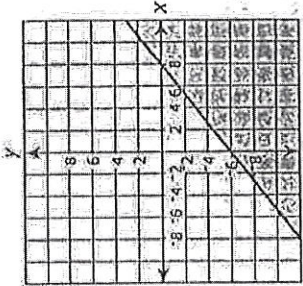
2. Which is a graph of the solution set of the inequality  $3x - 4y \leq 24$ ?



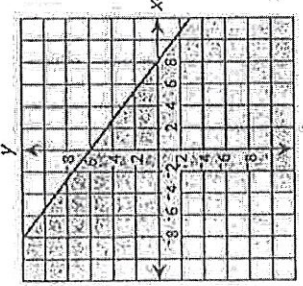
A



B



C

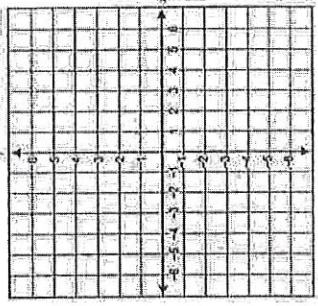
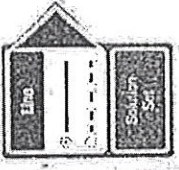


D

Online

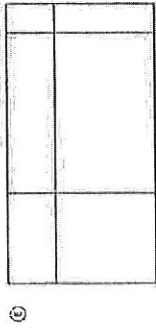
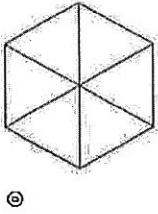
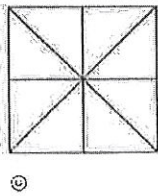
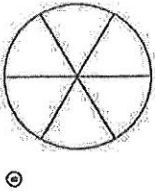
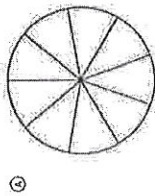
Graph the solution set of  $2x + y > 6$ .

- selecting the "line" button to graph the line and choosing the line style,
- selecting the "solution set" button to select the desired region.



Paper

17. Select the two shapes that have parts that are each  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the area of the whole shape:



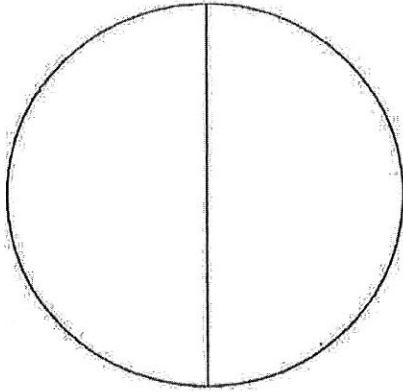
Online

Use the More or Fewer buttons as many times as needed to divide the circle into 6 equal parts.

Then shade  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the area of the circle. Divide the figure into the correct number of equal parts by using the More and Fewer buttons. Then shade by selecting the part or parts.



Circle



Fewer More Reset

20. Select the equation that is true when the number 8 is put into the box:

Ⓐ  $64 + \square = 8$

Ⓑ  $4 \times 4 = \square$

Ⓒ  $3 \times \square = 27$

Ⓓ  $\square + 7 = 5$

Enter your answers in the boxes.

$64 \div \square = 8$

$4 \times 8 = \square$

$6 \times \square = 42$

$\square + 7 = 5$