

Hi! My name is Joey England. I'm in the 7th grade and I go to Clifford Smart Middle School in the Walled Lake Consolidated School District. My mom refused the MSTEP test for me last year and for this year too.

Even though my mom hasn't turned in the refusal letter yet this year, I have been able to get out of doing the practice test in my Math class by speaking up for myself. While the other kids were practicing, I got to read a book in the same room as everyone else.

I know my mom is protecting me from the test since it doesn't count towards my grade in my math, English, and science classes. There's more too but I really don't understand everything that she talks about.

Last year during the MSTEP, my mom picked me up from the school for a couple days in a row and we went home for a few hours. Right before we went back to school one day, we stopped and got ice cream. Another day, we went to lunch at Burger King.

This M-STEP test is stupid. I shouldn't have to leave school just because others think they must take it. My mom knows I don't have to, so I don't.

Thank you for listening to me today.

Joseph England

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