STANDARDIZED TESTING IN INDIANA

AND WHY WE NEED LESS OF IT.
CURRENT TESTS

- IREAD-3
- ISTEP+
- Lexile
- Acuity
- ECA
- AP
STRESS LEVELS

• Florida and Texas – high stakes tests starting at 1st grade
• Consistent high levels of stress can lead to brain damage
• More students are getting diagnosed with anxiety and depression
• Test anxiety – students don’t perform as well
• Behavioral problems
FACTORS IN STUDENT SCORES

• Arguments
• Not enough sleep
• Not eating right
• Not feeling well
• Distraction
• Other problems at home

• Just one day does not accurately reflect a student’s learning.
EVERYTHING BASED ON RESULTS

- Teacher pay
- School grades
- Curriculum taught
- Growth isn’t always accurate
- “Teaching to the test”
- Incentives
OPPOSITION

• The tests give everyone an equal chance to do well on them
• Testing holds schools and teachers accountable and makes them responsible for teaching the students what they need to know for the test
• There are no other ways to measure student achievement
• The standards established by the test are consistent so that if a student moves around he or she is not ahead or behind and so that a third and sixth grade teacher aren’t teaching the same content
• “Physicians, lawyers, real-estate brokers and pilots all take high-stakes standardized tests to ensure they have the necessary knowledge for their professions”