Five things that you can do to make a difference…

1. **Support the NYS Principals' letter**
   Go to [www.newyorkprincipals.org](http://www.newyorkprincipals.org) and click Support the Letter. You will join nearly 6000 New Yorkers who believe that test scores are only one measure of learning, and that teacher and principal evaluations based on student scores will have harmful effects on our students. Send the above link to family and friends, and ask them to support the letter and become informed.

2. **Write to your elected officials**
   [http://www.newyorkprincipals.org/legislators](http://www.newyorkprincipals.org/legislators) Tell them that you do not want your tax dollars wasted on evaluation systems that have not been tested. Our precious tax dollars should go to classrooms, not testing companies. Let them know that the last thing our students need is less instruction and more testing so that teachers can be evaluated by their students’ scores.

3. **Contact the Governor**
   [http://www.governor.ny.gov/contact/GovernorContactForm.php](http://www.governor.ny.gov/contact/GovernorContactForm.php) Let him know that you support local control, not Albany control, of your public schools. The best lobbyists for students are those who best understand their academic and socio-emotional needs—their parents and the educators who teach them!

4. **Email the members of the Board of Regents**
   [http://www.newyorkprincipals.org/sed-officials](http://www.newyorkprincipals.org/sed-officials) Tell them to stop imposing expensive testing and unproven scoring practices on schools and allow districts to determine their evaluation policies. The Board of Regents needs to stand up to the politicians in Washington and Albany. Let’s protect education in New York State.

5. **Talk to your school’s parent organization**
   Share what you have learned today. The changes coming from Albany are happening too quickly. The time to say “SLOW DOWN AND GET IT RIGHT” is now! Because of APPR, the number of tests students take, the length of these tests and the time when these tests are given are driving our students’ education. Our students are more than a number.