

A long-exposure photograph of a night sky showing star trails. The stars appear as concentric, circular arcs of light, centered on a point in the sky. The trails are most prominent in the upper right and center, with some fainter trails extending towards the left. The bottom of the image shows the dark silhouettes of trees against the night sky.

**The Lying Polaris:  
How American Public  
Schools Have Lost  
Their Way And How  
They Might Be  
Reoriented**

By Alexander Riccio

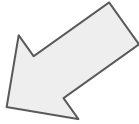
Knowledge Is Power

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What can you  
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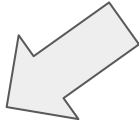


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How do you decide what knowledge to learn in the first place?

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Can half a story be more harmful than no story at all?

# 3 Questions to Answer

1. What does a creative education look like?
2. What does our current method of school assessment (standardized testing) tell us about how well our schools are promoting creativity/How does this information drive school reform?
3. What might be a more effective measure of creativity in our schools?

# A Creative Education

- Everything is built on expertise
- Once the base levels of expertise are in place, sun and space climates are necessary to create engagement that leads real application, outbox, and newbox thinking
- Storm climates must be naturally occurring/and come at appropriate intervals



# What Do Standardized Tests Show?

<b>New York City</b>	<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>Nationwide</b>
<p><b>What Happened?</b> Previous to 2008: ELA: 50.7% &amp; Math: 57%</p> <p>2008 ELA: 57.6% &amp; Math: 74.3%</p> <p>2009 ELA: 68.8% &amp; Math: 81.8%</p>	<p><b>What Happened?</b> From 2002 to 2008, average student scores in an Atlanta District improved by 14 points in ELA, math, and Social Studies,</p>	<p><b>What Happened?</b> In 2013 scores in states that adopted the Common Core fell between 15 and 30%</p>
<b>Why?</b>	<b>Why?</b>	<b>Why?</b>



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<p><b>Why?</b> The state tests for 2008 and 2009 were found to be significantly easier than tests from previous years.</p>	<p><b>Why?</b> In 44 out of 56 schools investigated, WTR erasure marks showed that 178 teachers and principals had been correcting student tests.</p>	<p><b>Why?</b> Well, it's complicated...</p>

# The Achievement Gap

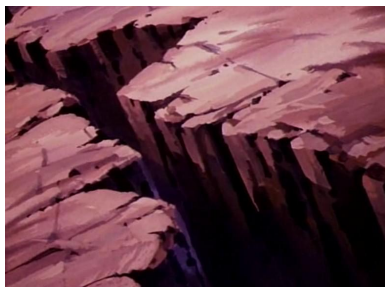
30 Million word gap:

2,153 words per hour vs.  
1,251 words per hour

Encouragement vs.  
Discouragement ratios of 6:  
1, 2:1, and 1:2

Difference in Proficiency  
Rates Between Highest  
Income and Lowest Income  
School Districts:

40-50%



# 2013 Common Core Scores

Scarsdale: 61%-75% Proficiency (a drop of about 25%)

Hempsted: 5.6%-12% Proficiency (a drop of about 25%)



# Art and Business/Education

-Storm climate expectations are exactly aligned to the task at hand in art and business

-Storm climate expectations in education are imposed from outside in a fashion that does not resemble the stated goals of the Common Core or most anyone's idea of what good teaching should look like



# Art and Business/Education

Art and Business expect  
and reward teamwork,  
collaboration, and the use of  
resources

Educational assessments  
demand isolation from  
others and external  
resources

# Portfolio Assessments!

