



2015

Uncommon Core; Extraordinary Care

Joseph S. Pizzo

NJCTE, Black River Middle School, Centenary College, and Union County College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.montclair.edu/nj-english-journal>

Recommended Citation

Pizzo, Joseph S. (2015) "Uncommon Core; Extraordinary Care," *New Jersey English Journal*: Vol. 4, Article 10.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.montclair.edu/nj-english-journal/vol4/iss1/10>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Montclair State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in *New Jersey English Journal* by an authorized editor of Montclair State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@montclair.edu.

Uncommon Core; Extraordinary Care

Imposed standards manufactured
 With parochial vision
 Twisted intentions
 Discounted decisioning
 Fetid core
 Fashioned scapegoats
 Nourished with tin cans brimming with empty promises
 Of golden horizons
Refusal to settle for miscreants missing empathetic vision
 Diagnosis of pedagogical needs replacing mandated misdirection
 Profiteering squelched
 Professionalism promoted
 Developmental readiness diagnosed and directed
 Solutions bolstered with insight
 Replacing salvos undermined with incite
 ADHD,
 Delayed Auditory Processing
 Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
 Addressed without redress
 Inclusion without confusion
 Acceptance, not exception
 Justice, not jingoism
 Advocacy, not ad nauseum
 Pedagogy, not presumption
 Prophets, not profits
 Demands for excellence, not excess
 Demands for advocacy, not advantages
 Demands for busyness, not business
 Classrooms with people, not percentages
 Instruction with heart, not hovering
 Climate with sincerity, not celerity
Exploitation deposed by experience
Piece deposed by peace
Common deposed by uncommon
Ordinary deposed by extraordinary
Willful disregard deposed by wisdom
 Uncommon Core
 Extraordinary Care

Joseph S. Pizzo, an Immediate Past Co-Director of NJCTE, has taught language arts at the Black River Middle School in Chester, NJ for 40 years. An adjunct professor at Centenary College (23 years) and Union County College (18 years), he is an Executive Board member of NJAMLE, a Core Team member of NJ Schools to Watch, and the NJEA Affiliates Liaison for NJCTE. The author of *NJ Grade 7 ELA/Literacy Test for Barron's*, Pizzo is a member Of Fordham University's Digital Literacy Collaborative, the NJ Department of Education's 21st Century Life and Careers Committee, WMGQ's Teachers Who Make a Difference, and one of the first to be elected to WWOR-TV Ch. 9's A+ for Teachers Hall of Fame. Pizzo's Twitter handle is @ProfJPizzo.



