

If GOOD MORNING MISSION HILL made you want to DO something, try these:

Make it Simple and direct:

Talk to your friends about experiences of your own that resonate with what you saw and heard in the film. Brainstorm about changes that might be possible in your specific situation in order to create a more meaningful education for your children. Even small changes can be significant.

Use parent conferences If you are a parent, let the teacher know you are less concerned about test scores, and more interested in hearing about your child's interests, learning style, social interactions, and ability to express him or herself creatively. **Ask: when and how do you encourage play, choice, divergent thinking, democracy, empathy, hands-on learning, the arts, responsibility, laughter...** If you are a teacher or administrator, help parents to see the importance of these areas.

Find points of agreement If you work in a school, engage your colleagues in conversation about approaches to assessing progress that are not test based.

Take a Stand:

write to your legislators/newspaper asking for high stakes testing to be scrapped or substantially altered so as not to narrow education. This website offers personal statements that might help you frame your own: <http://fairest.org/models-writing-about-personal-experience-nclb>

Let people running for School Board or Superintendent of Schools know your views. Speak up at board meetings. Vote for those who are like-minded, and if there aren't any, consider running yourself!

Consider opting your child out of standardized testing. **United Opt Out National** has information on what others are doing across the nation, including a link to an opt out letter you can work from: <http://unitedoptout.com/>

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...and then

Join others nationwide:

These are some of the national groups working for change. Many more are listed at www.augusttojune.com/resources.html There is sure to be one that is in line with your interests:

Parents Across America: <http://parentsacrossamerica.org/>

The National Center for Fair and Open Testing (Fairtest): <http://www.fairtest.org/>

Institute for Democratic Education in America (IDEA): <http://www.democraticeducation.org>

The Broader Bolder Approach to Education: <http://www.boldapproach.org>

Forum for Education and Democracy: <http://forumforeducation.org>

The Progressive Education Network: <http://www.progressiveed.org>

Read: Visit our Facebook page, [August To June with respect for each child](#). Online don't miss "The Answer Sheet" <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet> Teacher/activist Anthony Cody connects dots at www.livingindialogue.com Find lots more reading material here: <http://www.augusttojune.com/resources.html#Reading>

and of course:

Organize another screening of

Good Morning Mission Hill or **AUGUST TO JUNE: BRINGING Life to School!**

We'll help you reach people who share your concerns. Find out how at www.GoodMorningMissionHill.com/screenings/

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