WHAT’S WRONG WITH STANDARDIZED TESTS?

Multiple-choice & short-answer tests are **poor measures** of student achievement, particularly of the ability to understand and use complex material.

Test scores are **not reliable**.
An individual's score may vary significantly from day to day due to testing conditions or the test-taker's mental or emotional state.

Test-makers can’t remove all bias.
Cultural assumptions built into tests often remain.

Tests do not reflect current knowledge about learning.
There has been enormous progress in this area. Tests are mostly based on outdated assumptions.

High-stakes tests cause curriculum to be narrowed to just what is on the test. Teachers feel pressed to boost scores, even to cheat, and educational quality often suffers.

There ARE **BETTER WAYS** to evaluate achievement and ability:
Good teacher observation, documentation of student work, and performance-based assessment are most useful.

Standardized tests are **NOT fair & helpful** evaluation tools.
They reward quick answers & do not measure deep or creative thinking in any field.

Find out more at www.fairtest.org