

Obstacles and Barriers to Reaching High Standards in the Middle Grades

- **Large class size**
- **Lock-step, time-bound school structure**
- **Automatic social promotion policy**
- **Full inclusion (at-all-costs) policy**
- **DAP-Lite (daycare version of developmentally appropriate practices)**
- **Textbook adoption mandate**
- **Unreasonable standards**
- **Overreliance on standardized testing**
- **Too much/escalated curriculum**