

New Core Standards

Beginning in the spring of 2009, governors and state commissioners of education from 48 states, 2 territories and the District of Columbia committed to developing a common core of state K-12 English/Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics standards. The Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSI) is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).

To develop these standards, CCSSO and the NGA Center worked with representatives from participating states, a wide range of educators, content experts, researchers, national organizations, and community groups. These final standards reflect the invaluable feedback from the general public, teachers, parents, business leaders, states, and content area experts and are informed by the standards of other high performing nations.

The Kansas State Board of Education formally adopted the Common Core State Standards for mathematics and English/Language Arts on October 12, 2010.

The Common Core State Standards will be phased in, with full implementation in the 2014-2015 school year. Please contact any USD 210 administrator for concise information on our timeline.



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For more information please visit
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The New Common Core Standards

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) initiative is a voluntary, state-led effort to establish a shared set of clear, educational standards for English/Language Arts and Mathematics. They are not national or federally mandated standards! The development of the standards was coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The standards were developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts, to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce. They were developed using research results and the highest state standards across the country and globe.



Why do we need a common core?

Common core state standards will help us ensure students are receiving a high quality education consistently from school to school and from state to state. Currently, students are measured against a moving target. Materials and resources for teachers have been based on standards from states with big buying power. Adoption of the common core standards will help us develop and provide high quality curriculum and courses.

We need rigorous post-secondary and career ready standards. Data shows that students need literacy and numeracy skills that will help them be ready to compete in the emerging global marketplace. This expectation is just as important for young people who enroll in occupational certificate programs after high school; success in these programs and in on-the-job training requires the skills and knowledge embedded in the core standards.

Strengths of the New Core

The common core state standards:

- Are aligned with college and work expectations;
- Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills;
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards;
- Informed by top-performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society.

Language Arts in the Common Core

The Common Core State Standards for English/Language Arts focus on literacy in English, Social Studies, Science, and Technical Reading.



Subjects. They are designed to ensure that all students are college and career ready in literacy no later than the end of high school. The K-12 Language Arts standards progress from kindergarten through twelfth grade to meet this goal.

Mathematics in the Common Core
The structure of the new math standards are in line with that of countries with high mathematics achievement. Thus, this is a transition to “world-class” mathematics instruction for Kansas.

The Common Core State Standards provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers. With American students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to compete successfully in the global economy.