

Understanding the Common Core State Standards and Assessment

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What we will do in this session:

- Overview of Common Core State Standards and implications for assessment on the classroom and district level.
- How will CCSS assessments look differently than those from the previous generation of standards?

Useful Links and Resources

- Copies of the standards: www.commoncore.org
- All of the powerpoints and handouts for my sessions can be downloaded here:
- www.katherinemcknight.com
- I have CCSS cards to assist in close study and curriculum development. They are on sale here and available on my website:
- <http://www.katherinemcknight.com/shop/cards.html>

What do you know or want to know about CCSS?



Use post-its to complete a K-W-Now What?
Stick them on the chart papers.
I know, I know, but it is kind of helpful for me to get a sense of the room ☺

Today's Key Questions

What are the **expectations** of the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects? (The Standards and Assessments)

How can we begin an **exploration** of the standards in schools? (Exploring Strategies)

What might the **application** of standards look like in practice, particularly in text and task selection? (Strategies for Supporting the Common Core Adoption in Teacher Education Courses and Schools)

Why New Standards?

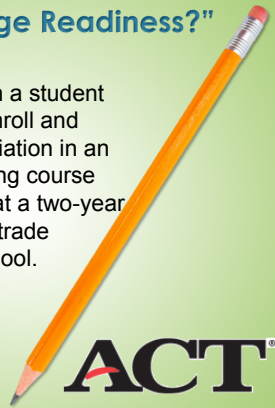
Students are not **reading** at levels sufficient for college and career readiness in content areas.

Only slightly more than half (53%) of the members of the 2009 high school graduating class were ready for college-level and workplace training-level reading.



What is "College Readiness?"

The level of preparation a student needs to be ready to enroll and succeed without remediation in an entry-level, credit bearing course (in each content area) at a two-year or four-year institution, trade school, or technical school.



Who Should be Worried about "College Readiness?"



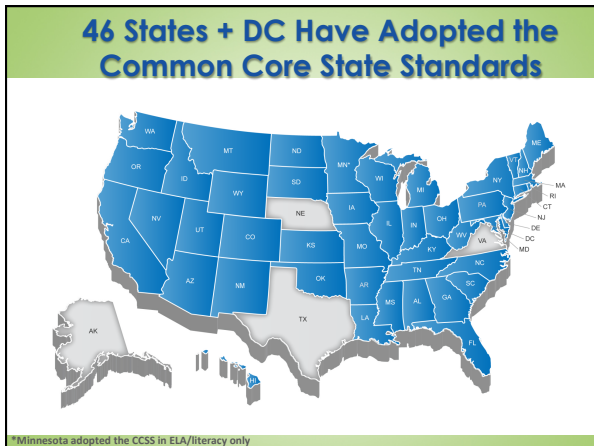
What We Know So Far

New Standards New Assessments

Common Core State Standards Development

The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort 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.



Assessment Consortia

PARCC
Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

And

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

Michigan

Assessment Consortia

Alliances made up of states representing half of the country working to develop a common set of K–12 assessments in English and Math (Beginning in 2014).

Each assessment system will include:
Multiple-choice, short answer, open response, and performance based items.

Assessment Systems

The computer-based assessments will:

Produce real-time snapshots of students' knowledge.

Give parents, students and teachers the ability to adjust accordingly rather than waiting until the end of the school year when it's too late to make changes.

The assessments will be scored:

By a combination of artificial intelligence (AI) and human scoring.

States will individually determine the extent to which teachers will be involved in scoring.

The Common Core State Standards do not provide . . .

- a complete scope and sequence,
- a course outline, or
- *all* the essential skills and knowledge students *could* have.

The Common Core State Standards do . . .

- outline the most important essential skills and knowledge *every* student needs to master to succeed in college and careers.

Leading the Discussion: Strengths of CCSS

Aligned with college and work expectations.

Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through higher 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; and,

Evidence and/or researched-based.

Examining a Sample Assessment



- How is this assessment different than current state assessments?
- How does this assessment support your current instructional practice and curriculum?
- Once you have thoroughly examined the assessment, what revisions must be made to current curriculum?

What will assessment look like in the CCSS era?

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