

Implementing the Common Core State Standards

Brookfield Public Schools

Brookfield, Connecticut

October 2011

Overview of CCSS: Adopted by 44 States

The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) & 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**.

CCSS have significant curriculum changes in

- **English, Language Arts/Literacy**
- **Mathematics**

The Common Core State Standards are...

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

ELA/Literacy:

6 Curriculum Shifts

1. **Balance** of literature & literary non-fiction (K-5)
2. Literacy as part of science and social studies/history; **informational text** as part of ELA/Literacy (6-12)
3. Appropriately **complex text**
4. Questions regarding text are **text-dependent**
5. Writing to inform or argue using **evidence**
6. **Academic vocabulary**

Math:

6 Curriculum Shifts

1. **Focus:** only on concepts prioritized in CCSS
2. **Coherence:** build on prior learning
3. **Fluency:** speed & accuracy in calculations
4. **Deep Understanding:** apply math & speak/write about math understanding
5. **Application:** use math
6. **Dual Intensity:** balance in practice & understanding—practice drills & application of math concepts

Key Math Fluencies by grade level

- **K**: Add/subtract within 5
- **1**: Add/subtract within 10
- **2**: Add/subtract within 20
Add/subtract within 100
(pencil & paper)
- **3**: Multiply/divide within 100
Add/subtract within 1,000
- **4**: Add/subtract within 1,000,000
- **5**: Multi-digit multiplication
- **6**: Multi-digit division
Multi-digit decimal operations
- **7**: Solve $px + q = r$,
 $p(x + q) = r$
- **8**: Solve simple 2 X 2 systems by inspection

Priorities in Mathematics by grade level

Grade	Priorities in support of rich instruction & expectations of fluency & conceptual understanding
K-2	Addition and subtractions, measurement using whole number quantities
3-5	Multiplication & division of whole number and fractions
6	Ratios and proportional reasoning; early expressions & equations
7	Ratios and proportional reasoning; arithmetic of rational numbers
8	Linear algebra

Advice to School Districts

ELA/Literacy

- **Materials:** Reading lists are balanced between literature & informational texts
- **Teachers:** 80% of questions are text-dependent
- **Students:** Demonstrate close encounters with text through writing

Math

- **Materials:** Focus on identified areas
- **Teachers:** Have a deep understanding of areas of focus
- **Students:** Demonstrate fluency and deep understanding of areas of focus

New Assessments: Smarter Balance in 2014-2015

ELA/Literacy

- Informational passages
- Writing to sources
--not narrative,
decontextualized
prompts

Math

- Focus on identified areas

For more information...

CCSS website: [http://
www.corestandards.org/](http://www.corestandards.org/)

CT State Dept. of Education website:
[http://
www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a
=2618&q=322592](http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=322592)

PTA website: <http://www.pta.org/4446.1>

