

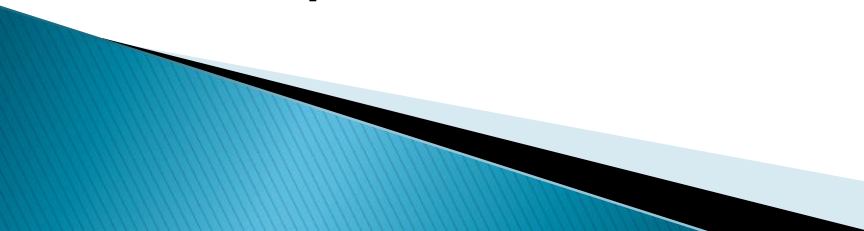
COMMON CORE STANDARDS

SWPRRSC In-service

August 2, 2010

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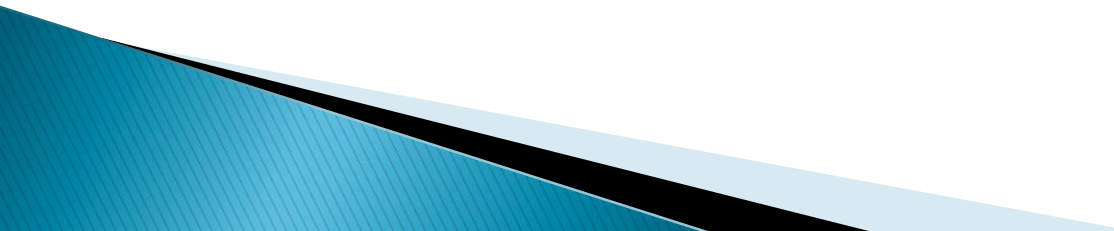
What are Common Core Standards?

- ▶ A process being led by governors and chief state school officers in 51 states, territories, and the District of Columbia.
 - ▶ These draft standards, developed together with teachers, school administrators and experts, seek to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce.
 - ▶ 1st public draft, released 3/10/2010
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Myths vs. Facts

Myth: Adopting common standards will bring all states to the lowest common denominator.

Fact: The standards are designed to build upon the most advanced current thinking about preparing all students for success in college and careers.



Myths vs. Facts

Myth: The standards are not internationally benchmarked.

Fact: International standards played a significant role in the development of the Common Core Standards.

Myths vs. Facts

Myth: The Standards only include skills and do not address the importance of content knowledge.

Fact: The Standards recognize that both content and skills are important.

- English–Language Arts: The Standards require certain critical content for all students.
- Mathematics: The Standards lay a solid foundation in whole numbers, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions and decimals.

Myths vs. Fact

Myth: The Standards suggest teaching “The Grapes of Wrath” to 2nd graders.

Fact: The Standards suggest “Grapes of Wrath” is appropriate for 9th–10th graders.

Myths vs. Facts

Myth: The Standards are just vague description of skills; they don't include a reading list or other similar reference to content.

Fact: The Standards do include sample texts that demonstrate the level of text complexity appropriate for the grade level

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: English teachers will be asked to teach science and social studies reading materials.

Fact: English teachers will teach their students literature as well a literary non-fiction.

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: The Standards don't have enough emphasis on fiction/literature.

Fact: The Standards require certain critical content for all students, including classic myths and stories from around the world.

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: The Standards do not require students to learn Algebra in the 8th grade as many states' current standards do.

Fact: The Standards do accommodate and prepare students for Algebra 1 in 8th grade, by including the prerequisites for this course in K–7.

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: Key math topics are missing or appear in the wrong grade.

Fact: The mathematical progressions presented in the Common Core Standards are coherent and based on evidence.

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: No teachers were involved in writing the Standards.

Fact: The drafting process relied on teachers and standards experts from across the country.

Myth vs. Fact

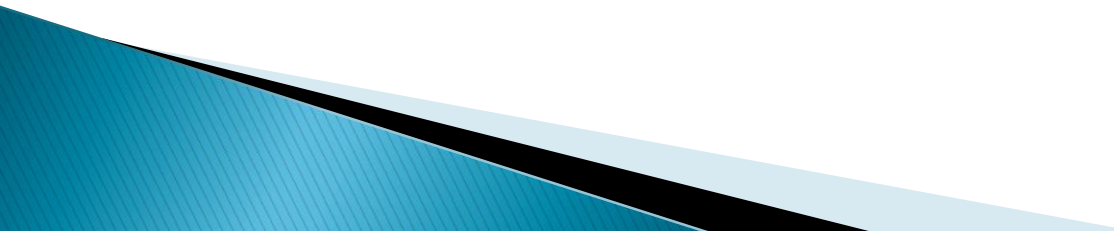
Myth: The Standards are not research or evidence based.

Fact: The Standards have made careful use of a large and growing body of evidence. (NAEP, TIMMS)

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: The Standards tell teachers what to teach.

Fact: The best understanding of what works in the classroom comes from the teachers who are in them. The Standards will establish what students need to learn, not dictate how teachers teach.

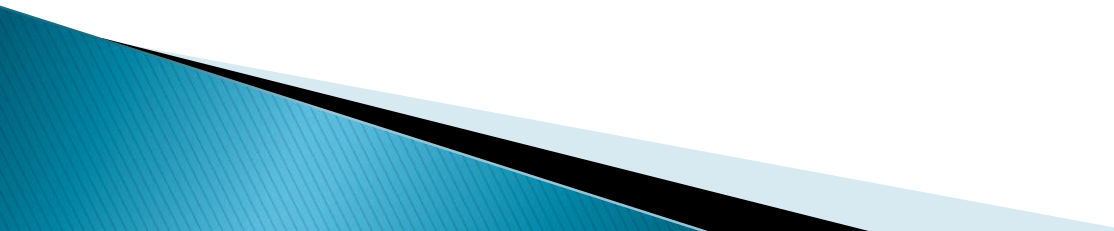


Myth vs. Fact

Myth: These Standards amount to a national curriculum for our schools.

Fact: The Standards are not a curriculum. They are a clear set of shared goals and expectations for what knowledge and skills will help our students succeed.

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

- ▶ The Common Core Standards initiative is a state-led effort that is not a part of NCLB and the adoption of the Standards is in no way mandatory.
 - ▶ This work is being driven by the needs of states, not the federal government.
 - ▶ This effort to create clear and consistent standards began before the Recovery Act or the Elementary & Secondary Recovery Act blueprint was released.
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QUESTIONS?

<http://www.corestandards.org>