Common Core State Standards: Preparing College and Career Ready Citizens

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What Do We Need to Know About the Common Core State Standards?

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The Need

- In 2018, 63% of projected job openings in the U.S. will require at least some college education (Zygouris-Coe, 2012, p. 35)

- Currently 30-40% of incoming freshmen at U.S. universities are taking remedial courses in reading, writing and math

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By 2025, 80% of high school graduates will be college and career ready without need for remedial work.
In 2010, National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State School Officers (2010) agreed: we must implement clearer, fewer and higher education standards.

- College and career readiness standards for K-12 students, known as the Common Core State Standards.
Common Core State Standards

Map: Courtesy http://www.corestandards.org

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A Changing National Context

Communities
Schools
Teachers

Standards Reform
Common Tests
New Accountability Systems

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THE GOAL IS CLEAR, THE PATHWAY IS NOT.
English Language Learners (ELLs) have to do “double the work”

Support for ELLs is beyond the scope of the standards

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Shifting Demographics

United States: Yesterday (1991)
- ELL: 6%
- Non-ELL: 94%

United States: Today (2013)
- ELL: 10%
- Non-ELL: 90%

United States: Tomorrow (2025)
- ELL: 20%
- Non-ELL: 80%
The San Diego Context

- Growing Population of English Language Learners (2012-13)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of CA</td>
<td>21.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego County</td>
<td>22.2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chula Vista District</td>
<td>34.8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego Unified District</td>
<td>26 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Ysidro District</td>
<td>65.3 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The San Diego Context

San Diego County English Language Learners by Language (2011-12)

N=115,605
Source: Dataquest
Global economy
- Need to prepare students for careers that do not yet exist
- Need to prepare globally competent teachers and students

Multilingual students with varying degrees of proficiency in English and primary language

Diverse communities

High technology
What does it mean to be college and career ready?

- Biliteracy
- Deep knowledge in the Content Areas, with focus on 21st century themes
- Learning and Innovation Skills – 4 C’s
  - Creativity and Innovation
  - Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
  - Communication and Collaboration
- Information, Media, Technology Skills
- Life and Career Skills

www.p21.org
Getting to the CORE
NEW STANDARDS

- CLEARER
- FEWER
- HIGHER
- DEEPER
- WIDER

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Organization of CCSS for English Language Arts

- The standards are divided into 4 strands
  - Reading
  - Writing
  - Speaking & Listening
  - Language
Organization of CCSS for English Language Arts

- The grade-specific Common Core State Standards correspond to the broad College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards organized by number.

- EXAMPLE: [Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics of texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence]
  - College and Career Readiness Anchor Standard #1 for Writing
Gradual Increase of Complexity

- Requires vertical articulation of the expectations set for each grade-level

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Shift 1: PK-5 Balancing Informational & Literary Texts
Shift 2: 6-12 Knowledge in the Disciplines
Shift 3: Staircase of Complexity
Shift 4: Text-based Answers
Shift 5: Writing from Sources
Shift 6: Academic Vocabulary

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Examples of the Rigor Found in Common Core

- Focus on language
  - Academic English
  - Discipline-specific
- Interpretation
  - Analyze and evaluate informational text
- Argumentation
  - State an opinion based on evidence
What makes skills such as biliteracy, argumentation, and text-based evidence a 21st century, college and career readiness skill?
Work, learning, and citizenship in the 21st century demand that children:

- Know how to think critically
- Communicate effectively
- Understand issues from a local and global perspective
Caminante no hay camino, el camino se hace al andar.

Traveler there is no road, the road is created as we walk.

--Antonio Machado
Thank You!

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References and Website of Interest

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