

Common Core Standards

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What We Know...

- The 1983 report, *A Nation at Risk*, started the movement toward increasing the academic rigor of education; this was the beginning of standards-based education.
- In Kansas, standards were first developed in the early 1990's following the development of a state assessment.
- In less than 20 years, Kansas has moved from minimal competency standards to rigorous state content and performance standards.
- Kansas standards are already based on the national standards developed by (for example):
 - National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
 - International Reading Association
 - National Science Foundation



What Has Changed...

- We live in a world without borders.
- To be competitive, we need all of our students to be well prepared.
- This includes the skills, knowledge and expertise needed for the 21st century including:
 - Financial literacy
 - Civic literacy
 - Creativity and innovation
 - Critical thinking
 - Information and technology literacy
 - Flexibility, initiative, productivity, leadership, responsibility



What We Need...

- A common core of standards that are:
 - Internationally benchmarked
 - Aligned with work and post-secondary
 - Inclusive of higher order skills
 - Based on research and evidence
 - Inclusive of rigorous content and skills

Ready for College and Ready for Work: Same or Different?

- Whether planning to enter college or workforce training, students need to be educated to a comparable level of readiness in reading and mathematics
- Educating some students to a lesser standard than others narrows their options to jobs that no longer pay well enough to support a family of four

Out of Many, One...

- The American Diploma Project Network—to which 33 states have signed on—has worked to:
 - Align high school standards with the demand of postsecondary education and the workplace
 - Require students to complete a college- and career-ready curriculum to earn a high school diploma
 - Build college- and career-ready measures into statewide high school assessment systems
 - Hold high schools and postsecondary institutions accountable for student preparation and success

Out of Many, One...

- States must take the lead, using college- and career-readiness as their goal, to develop rigorous standards that prepare all students for success.
- A critical mass of states has arrived at a *common core* of standards in English and mathematics as a byproduct of their deliberate, voluntary efforts to align their high school standards with the demands of college and careers.
- This is not a federal effort to either influence, direct, or determine state standards.
- States, focusing on their own goals, working with their own constituents and on their own timetable, are putting into place rigorous, competitive standards

Out of Many, One...

- What we know:
 - There is a fundamental knowledge base in English and mathematics that all graduates must know to succeed
 - These are not bound by state lines
 - It respects the traditional role of state decision-making in education
 - Local curriculum
 - Local textbook adoption

Out of Many, One...

- In English:
 - Language
 - Communication
 - Writing
 - Grammar, punctuation, spelling
 - Research
 - Logic
 - Developing an argument
 - Informational text
 - Interpreting significant works
 - Media
 - Literature
- In Mathematics:
 - Number sense
 - Numerical operations
 - Foundational computation
 - Algebra, geometry
 - Perform constructions
 - Data interpretation
 - Identify real world problems
 - Statistics and probability
 - Mathematical reasoning
 - Prove theorems

Reading Standards

Kansas

- **Standard 1 - Reading: The student reads and comprehends text across the curriculum.**
- R.5.1.3.1 ▲Determines the meaning of words or phrases by using context clues (e.g., definitions, restatements, examples, descriptions) from sentences or paragraphs.
- R.5.1.3.2 Uses synonyms, antonyms, homophones, and homographs to determine the meaning of words.

Achieve

- **Acquire Information- Reading**
- [A.1.1.2.4-5.a](#) Use surrounding textual context (e.g., in-sentence definitions), cues (e.g., commas, quotes) and graphic cues (bold face) to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words or distinguish among multiple-meaning words in relatively uncomplicated texts about concrete topics.

Math Standards

Kansas

2.1.K4 defines (2.4.K1a):

- a. a recursive or explicit formula for arithmetic sequences and finds any particular term,
- b. a recursive or explicit formula for geometric sequences and finds any particular term.
- 2.1.A2 solves real-world problems with arithmetic or geometric sequences by using the explicit equation of the sequence (2.4.K1c) (**\$**), e.g., an arithmetic sequence

Achieve

- J1.7. * Derive and use the formulas for the general term and summation of finite arithmetic and geometric series; find the sum of an infinite geometric series whose common ratio, r , is in the interval $(-1, 1)$.

CCSSO/NGA Partnership

- What we know:
 - The time has come for the nation's states to join together to collectively develop a set of standards that:
 - Increase academic rigor and relevance;
 - Prepare all students for postsecondary education and workforce training; and
 - Are internationally benchmarked.
 - CCSSO and NGA have joined together to support and create the conditions needed to embark on a process to develop common core standards
 - An MOA has been offered which commits us to becoming a partner in the **process** of developing the common standards, not to the standards themselves
 - Kansas will be a voice at the table to ensure these standards are rigorous and relevant

Working with Achieve

- Achieve helped states review and revise Math/English standards; they provided training and technical assistance
- Alignment team would look at high school standards and see how they align with what the IHEs want
- Higher education needs to identify assessments that measure the skills needed to do college level work; gap analysis

Working with Achieve

- \$15,000 to do an end of high school review
- Mike recommends that we not rush into standards now as a result of the meeting in Chicago
- End of high schools standards draft will be available late July; this will provide guidance to us in light of the common core standards work

Alignment Team

The Kansas P20 Council will determine how well prepared high school students are to continue their education, enter the workforce, or participate in training in the work force by forming an Alignment Team to:

Alignment Team

Charge:

- Review the current KS high school standards in Reading and Mathematics
- Identify assessments KS uses that measure the skills needed to be work-ready and/or do college level work

Alignment Team

Charge:

- Do a gap analysis to determine how well the current high school standards align with what post-secondary and the work world need and want
- Do a linking study between the state high school assessment and other tests used for college and workforce placement