

Common Core Standards Overview

Milton School Committee
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Slides Adapted from DESE Presentations available at
www.doe.mass.edu

Development and Adoption of the New Curriculum Frameworks Incorporating the Common Core Standards

Spring 2009

Summer 09-Spring 10

July 2010

Fall 2010

December
2010

Governor and
Commissioner
sign MOU

DESE Staff &
Local Educators
Provide Feedback
to Drafts

DESE &
MBAE
Studies

DESE/DEEC
Identify
Additional
Standards

BESE Adopts
New Frameworks
Incorporating
CCSS

Development
Begins

Final Version of
CCSS completed
June 2010

BESE Adopts
CCSS, with
Option for
Additions

Public
Comment
Solicited on
Additions

BEEC Adopts
Pre-K
Standards

Where Have the Common Core State Standards Been Adopted?

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota (ELA/Literacy only), Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Primary Intent

The New ELA/Literacy and Math Curriculum Frameworks, comprised primarily of the *Common Core State Standards*, were written explicitly to define the knowledge and skills that students must master to be college and career ready by the end of high school.

What is the College and Career Ready Threshold In Each of the Frameworks?

ELA/Literacy

- In the ELA Framework there is a set of broad, *College and Career Ready Standards* for each of the areas of reading, writing, speaking/listening, and language. They *anchor* grade-specific standards in each of those areas.
- The CCR Standards, working in tandem with the high school (9-12) standards, define the CCR threshold.

Mathematics

- In the Mathematics Framework the CCR threshold is comprised of the high school standards that are not marked “+”.
- Mastering those standards would prepare a student for a first-year, college credit-bearing math course such as college algebra.
- Mastering high school standards marked “+” would prepare a student for more advanced math courses than college algebra.

Purpose of the Standards

“These Standards are not intended to be new names for old ways of doing business. They are a call to take the next step. It is time for states to work together to build on lessons learned from two decades of standards based reforms.”

-2011 Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for Mathematics (page 14)

-Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (page 5)

The Role of Massachusetts in Developing the Mathematics Common Core State Standards

ESE curriculum and assessment staff:

- Served on the working teams developing the standards
- Formally submitted written comments
- Engaged MA teachers, teacher educators, mathematics faculty, and researchers on external review and validation teams

Evidence Base for the Math Standards

- Standards from high-performing countries, leading states, and nationally-regarded frameworks, such as the American Diploma Project and NCTM Math Focal Points
- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Frameworks, international assessments (e.g., TIMSS and PISA) and longitudinal NAEP, SAT, and ACT scores
- Lists of works consulted and research base are included in the Massachusetts Mathematics Curriculum Framework.

Supporting changes in practice

- The new standards support improved curriculum and instruction due to increased:
 - **FOCUS**, via critical areas at each grade level
 - **COHERENCE**, through carefully developed connections within and across grades
 - **CLARITY**, with precisely worded standards that cannot be treated as a checklist
 - **RIGOR**, including a focus on fluency, conceptual understanding, and applications, as well as the Standards for Mathematical Practice

(8) Pre-K-12 Standards for Mathematical Practice

“Expertise” for students at all grade levels:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
4. Model with mathematics
5. Use appropriate tools strategically
6. Attend to precision
7. Look for and make use of structure
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

Key Ideas

ELA/Literacy Framework

- Emphasis on college and career readiness beginning at birth
- Intentional coherence between the standards for reading literature and reading informational text
- Detailed standards on writing arguments, explanations, and narratives
- Emphasis on finding good evidence and using it precisely
- Strong linkage of reading and writing
- Developing literate students is a shared responsibility – not just the work of the English teacher
- The ability to read progressively more complex text is key to college and career readiness

Key Features

New **ELA/Literacy** Framework

- **Promotes students' ability to read and comprehend increasingly complex text and write to a source**
 - CCR Reading Standard 10:
Read and comprehend complex literary and informational text independently and proficiently.
 - CCR Writing Standard 9:
Draw evidence from literary and informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- **Promotes the idea that teaching literacy skills is not just the job of the English teacher**
 - Literacy standards for History and Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects.
- **Promotes the development of strong research skills**
 - Key to college and career readiness are research and media skills. These skills are blended throughout the standards, rather than treated in a separate section.

Organization of the Massachusetts ELA & Literacy Standards

- Three main sections
 - a comprehensive pre-k-5 section
 - 6-12 English language arts section
 - 6-12 section for literacy in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects

Organization of the Massachusetts ELA & Literacy Standards

- Pre K-5 & 6-12 ELA: 4 strands

Reading

Speaking and Listening

Writing

Language

- 6-12 Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science,
and Technical Subjects: 2 strands

Reading

Writing

PARCC Testing

- Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is a CCSS testing consortium comprised of 17 states
 - Another consortium, Smarter Balance, has 22 states
- PARCC Field Test this year
- DESE made next year a pilot year in which districts decide between PARCC and MCAS
- DESE will decide on future of PARCC in fall 2015