Note: This will be an informational session only. If you have questions, please write them on the sheet provided and submit them after the session is over. We will compile the questions, answer them and get back to you as quickly as possible.
Educational Standards

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

- Skills and knowledge students need to have at each level of education
- Help provide a consistent, high quality education
- Provide a roadmap of expectations for teachers, parents and students

What is Common Core?

- Governors and State Education Chiefs from more than 40 states initiated the development of new standards
- Developed with the help of:
  - Teachers, administrators, educational experts
  - Parents (including the National PTA)
  - Community members & business owners
  - Colleges, researchers, national organizations (ACT)
  - Feedback groups from around the country
- Sets clear expectations for what students should know and be able to do in English Language Arts & Math, Pre-K through 12th Grade
Criteria for Development

- The standards were developed using the following criteria:
  - Aligned with expectations for college and career success
  - Clear, so that educators and parents know what they need to do to help students learn
  - Consistent across all states
  - Include both content and application of knowledge through higher-order thinking skills
  - Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards and standards of top-performing nations
  - Realistic, for effective use in the classroom
  - Informed by other top performing countries, so all students are prepared to succeed in global economy and society
  - Evidence and researched-based
Core Standards

In addition to concept mastery, there is a new emphasis on critical thinking and analysis

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
• Importance of reading classic literature and non-fiction
• Use of evidence to back claims
• Expanding academic vocabulary

MATHEMATICS
• More comprehensive understanding of key topics
• Application of math toward solving real-world problems
• Meet higher standards earlier in math career

Let’s Take a Closer Look

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
Reading – Anchor Standards

- Read closely to determine what a text says and to make logical inferences from it
- Cite specific evidence from the text when writing or speaking
- Determine central ideas or themes of a text, and summarize the key supporting details and ideas
- Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text
- Understand point of view
- Understand content presented in diverse formats, such as media
- Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topic

Writing – Anchor Standards

- Write argument/opinion pieces and support ideas using reasoning and evidence
- Write informative/explanatory pieces and clearly organize ideas
- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using details
- Produce clear, coherent writing
- Successfully understand and use the writing process (plan, revise, edit, publish)
- Conduct short and long research projects
Speaking & Listening – Anchor Standards

- Participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations, clearly expressing own ideas
- Integrate and evaluate information presented in various formats
- Evaluate a speaker’s point of view and reasoning
- Present information and findings clearly
- Make use of digital media and visual displays to display information
- Demonstrate command of formal English

Language – Anchor Standards

- Demonstrate command of conventions of standard English grammar when writing or speaking
- Demonstrate command of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing
- Determine or clarify meaning of unknown words or phrases using various strategies
- Acquire and use a range of general academic and subject-specific words and phrases
Let’s Take a Closer Look

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics – Anchor Standards

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively
- Construct viable arguments
- Model with mathematics
- Attend to precision
- Use appropriate tools
Math Domains by Grade Level

**KINDERGARTEN**
- Counting & Cardinality
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Number and Operations in Base Ten
- Measurement and Data
- Geometry

**GRADES 1-2**
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Number and Operations in Base Ten
- Measurement and Data
- Geometry

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Math Domains by Grade Level

**GRADES 3-5**
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Number and Operations in Base Ten
- Number and Operations – Fractions
- Measurement and Data
- Geometry

**GRADES 6-7**
- Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- The Number System
- Expressions and Equations
- Geometry
- Statistics and Probability
Math Domains By Grade Level

GRADE 8

• The Number System
• Expressions and Equations
• Functions
• Geometry
• Statistics and Probability

Meeting the New Requirements
Meeting Common Core Requirements

- Illinois adopted the Common Core Standards in 2010
- Full implementation required of all Illinois school districts by 2013-2014 school year
- Districts must develop/implement a curricula that meets the Common Core Standards

How will Common Core affect teachers?

- Common Core establishes guidelines for what students need to learn, but NOT how they should learn.
  - Teachers will maintain their creativity and teach how their students learn best, while teaching the curriculum and ensuring students meet standards.
- Districts and teachers have continued flexibility and creativity to meet the unique needs of each student.
How will Common Core affect students?

- Ensures students receive a quality education by establishing a set of clear expectations
- Emphasizes skills students need to succeed in careers and college
- Benchmarked to international standards to help compete in today’s global economy

What does this mean for students with disabilities and English Language Learners?

- The standards were written with all students in mind.
- The standards document includes information on application of the standards for students with disabilities and English Language Learners.
- The standards are flexible enough to allow for differentiated approaches for ALL learners.
  - Offers learning support and accommodations to students with unique needs
  - Provides opportunity for enrichment and/or acceleration for talented students
How will Common Core be assessed?

- NWEA tests have been realigned
- 2013-2014 ISAT will be 100% Common Core aligned
- Starting in 2014-2015, Illinois has adopted the PARCC assessment

What is the PARCC Assessment?

- Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers
- Computer-based, rigorous assessments linked to CCSS
- Will be used in 19+ states
- Provide more meaningful and timely information to help inform instruction, interventions and professional development
Common Core in CCSD #46

Schedule of Events

• 2011-2012
  • Teachers worked to break down, understand, prioritize and group the standards
  • Started instructional planning
  • Started re-alignment of report cards

• 2012-2013
  • Continued work in buildings to work on building background knowledge for teachers and administrators
  • Continued instructional planning
  • Continued re-alignment of report cards
  • Taught a hybrid of IL learning standards and CCSS
• 2013-2014
  • Full implementation of CCSS
  • Continue to revise, update and discuss district wide
  • Continue to work on re-aligning report cards
  • Review, organize and align resources
  • Continued support and professional development and collaboration district-wide and with surrounding school districts

How can you support your child at home?

• Talk about books!
  • Reading is a big component of Common Core. Take time to read as a family and talk about what you read.

• Ask your children questions about what they are reading
  • One big shift is that students will write and talk about a text using evidence from the text. Ask questions that require your kids to talk about the content of what they read.

• Encourage reading non-fiction
  • Common Core elevates the importance of being able to read, understand and analyze non-fiction. Encourage students to read non-fiction books, articles, magazines, newspapers, etc.
How can you support your child at home?

- Write, write, write!!
  - Encourage your children to write as much as they can...keep a journal, or write a letter to a favorite author, etc.

- Talk math
  - Common Core requires students to use reasoning skills in addition to mastering mathematical practices. Talk to your kids about the math you use everyday – time, distance, product value, calculating tip, etc.

Let’s Review
Things to Remember

• The adoption of Common Core Standards is not a federal mandate or a curriculum. States chose to adopt the standards. Districts must revise their curriculum to meet the standards. States choose what standardized test they will use to measure student learning.

• Common Core does not take away our control. Grayslake D46 gets to decide how we will meet the standards. Teachers maintain creativity and control of their classroom.

• You will see changes and feel shifts. You’ll see your child doing more than finding answers and completing tasks. You’ll see them doing more reasoning and solving more complex problems. You’ll see them reading both fiction and non-fiction at elevated levels.

• Our district is committed to the success of all students, and will continue to work to meet the needs of all students.

Want more information?

• Specific grade level information in “Parent’s Guides to Success”
  - www.corestandards.org
  - www.pta.org
  - http://www.isbe.state.il.us/common_core/
Resources


