

Why New Standards

- The standards are designed to prepare students for college or career paths.
- The standards emphasize real life learning and problem solving.
- The standards focus on 21st Century skills for 21st Century jobs.
- The standards are the same in 44 states.



Additional Resources

Common Core Standards

www.corestandards.org

PARCC Assessment

www.parcconline.org

National PTA Guide

www.pta.org/common_core_state_standards.asp

Illinois State Board of Education

http://isbe.net/common_core/default.htm

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Common Core Standards

Parents' guide to
the new learning
standards for
students...



Common Core State Standards

What is the Common Core?

The Common Core State Standard Initiative is a state-led effort to establish a single set of clear educational standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics. The standards were written based upon the best available evidence and the highest state standards across the country and globe. These standards are designed to ensure that all students graduating from high school are prepared to go on to college or enter the workforce. Parents, teachers, and students will have a clear understanding of what is expected of them. The standards are designed to guarantee our students are competitive in the emerging global market place.

Why is Common Core important?

We want to make sure that every child in the nation is given the tools they need to succeed. High standards that are consistent across the state provide teachers, parents, and students, with a set of clear expectations in order to work together. This will ensure that we maintain America's competitive edge, so that all of our students are well prepared with the skills and knowledge necessary to compete not only with their peers here at home, but with students around the world.

Mathematics

The math standards emphasize that every student can be good in math. The standards set good math habits and strategies as top priorities for students in each grade. Some of those good math practices are active problem solving, persistence, precision, use of solid procedures, and checking to see if answers make sense. While there are fewer standards for math, the expectations are much more rigorous. Students will be learning about fewer concepts, but at a much deeper level.

English Language Arts (ELA)

The Common Core Standards set goals for student mastery in language arts. The English Language Arts standards are separated into four areas: reading, writing, speaking / listening, and language. The language arts expectations are established for each grade across all subjects including science, history, social studies, and technical subjects. Each of the English Language Arts standards depend heavily on skills mastered by students in previous grade levels. The ultimate focus of these goals is higher literacy expectations for students.

Literacy All Around

While Common Core Standards have not yet been published for areas other than Math and ELA, teachers in other content areas (science, social studies, fine arts, etc.) will be expected to reinforce literacy learning standards in

these subject areas as well. Students can expect to experience literacy skills in a variety of content areas.

What about ISAT?

New assessments based on the new standards will replace ISAT and PSAT beginning in 2014.

How Can I Help?

TALK to your child about what they are learning in school and how they are learning.

TALK to your child's teachers regularly concerning his / her progress and ways you can support learning at home and school.

