



## **Pasadena Unified School District Office of Instructional Services Common Core State Standards Resources for Parents and Guardians**

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### **Pasadena Unified School District's Commitment to the California Standards:**

PUSD is transforming its approach to teaching to build students' enduring understanding of knowledge, creativity and critical thinking -- and the real-world application of classroom lessons.

The national Common Core State Standards were adopted by California in 2010, and arrived in district classrooms for full implementation in English Language Arts and Mathematics in 2014-15. Adopted by 45 states, the Common Core learning standards describe clearly and consistently the knowledge and skills that young people need to be successful in college and careers.

In PUSD, a teacher-driven revision of the curriculum now incorporates 21st century learning skills, the stated desires of the greater Pasadena area community for public school graduates and the formalized expectations of the common core standards. We are focusing on more than the simple acquisition of content; we are teaching students understand it and transfer that knowledge to other situations.

This curriculum was adopted by the **PUSD Board of Education in August of 2014** and has been implemented in classrooms districtwide since that time.

Although the common core standards define benchmarks in language arts and mathematics, the standards also apply to history, science, art and physical education.

New tests used with the new standards starting in 2014-2015 will de-emphasize penciling in bubbles on multiple choice tests. Instead, essays and math word problems will assess knowledge, comprehension of academic subjects and problem-solving and writing skills. As well as teaching Enduring Skills for the 21st Century.

Our Goal: PUSD graduates who

- Think Critically
- Communicate Successfully
- Collaborate Effectively
- Create & Innovate

**These resources have been compiled for parents and guardians interested in learning more about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and how to support their child's attainment of these standards.**

### **What are the Common Core Standards?**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/tl/whatareccss.asp>

### **Informational Flyers**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/ccssinfoflyers.asp>

Informational flyers providing overviews and highlights of the CCSS, available in multiple languages.

## **K–8 California's Common Core Standards Parent Handbook**

This handbook, created by the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) in consultation with the California State Parent Teacher Association (PTA), gives parents an introduction to California's CCSS and a summary of what students are expected to learn as they advance from kindergarten through grade eight. The handbook and translations in 17 languages may be found on the CCSESA Common Core Standards Communication Tools Web page under the General Overview Materials section at <http://ccsesa.org/special-projects/common-core-standards-communication-tools/>.

## **California PTA Parent Resources Web Page**

<http://www.capta.org/sections/programs/e-standards.cfm>

The California State PTA has made available many resources for parents to learn more about the CCSS and support their child's achievement of the standards. Resources include frequently asked questions, presentations, a parents' guide, links to additional resources, and articles of interest.

## **“What’s Cooking With the Common Core in California?” Video**

<http://vimeo.com/99383000>

The FrameWorks Institute, in collaboration with the Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation, presents this video introduction to the CCSS in California.

## **Council of Great City Schools Parent Roadmaps**

<http://www.cgcs.org/Domain/36>

The Council of Great City Schools has developed parent roadmaps for understanding the English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics CCSS in kindergarten through eighth grade. For each grade and subject, the roadmaps explain to parents what children will be learning and how parents can support learning outside of the classroom.

## **Achieve the Core Common Core Resources for Parents and Community Members**

<http://www.achievethecore.org/common-core-intro-for-parents>

This Web page contains resources compiled for parents and guardians introducing the CCSS including information about the standards; guides, roadmaps, and videos for parents; and teacher and business support for the CCSS.

## **Common Core Resources for Special Education**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/cc/>

CCSS resources and guidelines for the special education community.

## **California Department of Education CCSS Resources Web page**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/core>

Information and resources about the academic content standards for mathematics and ELA adopted by the State Board of Education on August 2, 2010.

- ★ Join the CCSS Resources listserv to receive information and updates regarding the implementation of the CCSS. Send a "blank" message to [join-commoncore@mlist.cde.ca.gov](mailto:join-commoncore@mlist.cde.ca.gov).
- ★ If you would like further information regarding the CCSS, please contact the California Department of Education’s Common Core Team at 916-319-0490 or by e-mail at [commoncoreteam@cde.ca.gov](mailto:commoncoreteam@cde.ca.gov).