



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO Box 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

DAVID C. HESPE
Acting Commissioner

October 14, 2014

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons
Non-public School Administrators

FROM: Kimberley Harrington, Chief Academic Officer
Division of Academics

SUBJECT: Common Core Update

The State Board of Education readopted the Common Core State Standards on July 9, 2014. As schools continue to implement the standards daily in their classroom instruction, it is important to ensure parents and community members are informed about what these instructional changes mean for their children and what they can expect to see their children working on throughout the year. The NJDOE, in partnership with the state associations, designed a brochure to help parents and community members understand the Common Core State Standards. Paper copies of the brochure are being made available to districts through the associations and a digital copy can be found <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/toolkit/CCSSNJBrochure.pdf>. Please post the link on your website.

In an effort to support this important communication work being done in the field, the Division of Academics has developed a series of materials for school administrators and teachers to use when communicating with parents. These materials are written in parent-friendly language and can be used for school publications, parent nights, conference handouts, etc. In addition, a framework to support a yearlong, consistent communication approach has been developed, Parent Academy for Student Success (PASS), complete with all supporting materials and implementation guidelines. It is my hope that this program and materials will allow you to maximize your time and support you in the work you are already doing with parents and community members.

The materials produced are as follows:

- CCSS for Parents and Families: Overview
- CCSS for Parents and Families: Myths & Facts
- CCSS for Parents and Families: Resources
- Common Core Brochure
- Parent Academy for Student Success (PASS) suggested framework and materials (coming soon)

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/toolkit/>

www.nj.gov/education

New Jersey Is An Equal Opportunity Employer • Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

You will also find talking points for key stakeholders attached to this document:

- CCSS Talking Points for Board Members
- CCSS Talking Points for Superintendents
- CCSS Talking Points for Principals
- CCSS Talking Points for Teachers

Thank you for all you do to support parents and community members in your district. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call the Division of Academics at 609-292-7536.

KH/gm

Attachment

c: Members, State Board of Education
David C. Hespe, Acting Commissioner
Senior Staff
Nancy Curry
Kelly Allen
Elaine Lerner
Greg Kocher
Executive County Business Officials
Executive County Superintendents
Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers
NJ LEE Group
Garden State Coalition of Schools