

**COMMON CORE
LEARNING STANDARDS**


CCLS

Presentation to PJCS D Board of Education. November 2013

WHAT ARE *CCLS*?

- A common set of standards which determine what students need to learn in the areas of reading and math.


SOME BACKGROUND ON *CCLS*


- NCLB
 - *CCLS* are paired with assessments to measure student learning.
 - nationwide clarity and consistency.
 - Common Core = common goals
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CCLS

- **A shift in classroom instruction that urges students to deeply understand concepts and be able to apply these concepts to real world problems.**

CCLS


- Shift in focus from teaching to learning.
 - Teachers take on a facilitator role and students take on more ownership of their learning.
 - Students learn to think!
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- **Standards are a destination**
 - **The curriculum is the map to get there**
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CCLS AND TESTING

- The emphasis on testing is overshadowing the implementation of the Common Core Learning Standards


CONCERNS ABOUT TESTING

- NYS testing has increased dramatically
 - the tests are too long
 - ambiguous questions appeared throughout the assessments
 - the low passing rate was predicted
 - state measures are contradictory
 - many students who never needed Academic Intervention Services (AIS) in the past, are now receiving mandated AIS as a result of the low scores
 - the tests putting financial strains on school districts
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ON THE OTHER SIDE...

- tests help identify students' strengths and weaknesses
- tests can be used to improve student skills or understanding.
- test scores can help drive instruction

PARENTS AND *CCLS*

- It is imperative for parents to be informed
 - Parents are a crucial link in supporting these academic shifts at home
 - The ultimate goal is for our schools and parents to work together
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COMMON CORE IMPLEMENTATION:

- is a work in progress***
 - has the potential to be a positive force in education***
 - the ultimate goal is all students will graduate high school prepared for college and career.***
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RESOURCES

- National PTA Parent's Guides for Student Success
<http://pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>
- Council of Great City Schools Parent Roadmap
<http://www.cgcs.org/Domain/36>
- Engage New York Parent and Family Resources
<http://engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources>