

Things Parents Should Know About Common Core State Standards

1. Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are rigorous in nature while promoting critical thinking and effective communication skills.
2. The CCSS cover English Language Arts and Mathematics K-12. They also extend to secondary coverage in social studies, science, and technology centered courses.
3. The CCSS were designed to ensure that students learn skills that prepare them to succeed in college and in the global workforce.
4. The CCSS were developed and supported by the State Governors and Chief Academic Officers. They are **not** a federally mandated curriculum.
5. Because states across the nation have adopted these standards, students moving schools and states will have a better chance of accessing the same high quality education in their new school.
6. The CCSS put an emphasis on what students should know at each grade level, not how to teach. Local district still determine what books to read and what resources to use. Teachers still create lessons to address the skills established in the standards.
7. The CCSS cover:

Reading: Students will be required to read more nonfiction to help them develop skills necessary for understanding complex text in all subject areas.

Writing: Students will be expected to write more often across content areas and to support opinions and ideas with textual evidence. This will promote the critical thinking process.

Language: Students will be expected to build their vocabularies through increased reading and conversation.

Math: Students will be exposed to more complex in-depth concepts. They will build on these concepts over multiple grade levels through a progression of learning. Students will need to learn how to be persistent in problem solving, reason abstractly, create and communicate valid arguments, solve real-world problems, and look for patterns to help solve problems.

8. New state assessments will be developed and implemented sometime in 2015. The State of Michigan is currently looking at multiple vendors to provide this service.

For more details on the Common Core State Standards please refer back to the information found under [Information and Websites to Visit](#) and [Common Core Assessments](#).

Note: Information found here was adopted from The Parent Institute or www.parent-institute.com.