

Coventry Public Schools

K-5 Common Core State Standards PTO Parent Presentation

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*“The Coventry Public Schools will prepare every student
for life, learning, and work in the 21st century.”*

Topics:

- * Common Core State Standards (CCSS)
- * Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAC)

What are Common Core Standards?

coherent progression of learning expectations in English language arts and mathematics designed to prepare K–12 students for college and career success.

- * The CCS communicate what is expected of students at each grade level, putting students, parents, teachers, and school administrators on the same page, working toward shared goals.

Why Common Core?

- * Equity
- * College and Career Ready
- * Real life emphasis
- * Sharing materials across states
- * 21st century skills equal 21st century jobs

Educational Shifts in ELA:

- * Focus on Informational text / proper balance
- * Appropriately complex text
- * Text dependent questioning
 - * “What are kids reading and what are we asking them to do?”

Educational Shifts in ELA :

- * Writing to inform
- * Writing for argument - citing evidence from text
- * Academic vocabulary

Key Features of ELA Standards

❖ **Reading: Text complexity and growth of comprehension**

-equal emphasis on the sophistication of what students read and the skill with which they read

❖ **Writing: Text types, responding to reading, and research**

-acknowledge the fact that while some writing skills (e.g., the ability to plan, revise, edit, and publish) apply to many types of writing, other skills relate to specific types of writing: arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives

Key Features of ELA Standards

❖ **Speaking and listening: Flexible communication and collaboration**

-require students to develop a range of broadly useful oral communication and interpersonal skills, not just skills needed for formal presentations

❖ **Language: Conventions (grammar), effective use, and vocabulary**

includes the essential “rules” of standard written and spoken English, but they also look at matter of crafts and making choice

Educational Shifts in Mathematics :

- * Focus – fewer topics
- * Coherence – Teach math where it makes sense
- * Building on prior knowledge

Educational Shifts in Mathematics :

- * Fluency - speed and accuracy
- * Application – real world problems
- * Intensity - balance of drill and mastery with problem solving

Standards for Mathematical Practice

- * 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- * 2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- * 3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- * 4. Model with mathematics.

Standards for Mathematical Practice

- * 5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
- * 6. Attend to precision.
- * 7. Look for and make use of structure.
- * 8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Smarter Balanced Assessments

- * Assessments based on the new Common Core State Standards
- * The new assessments will...
 - * inform instruction
 - * guide interventions
 - * help target professional development
 - * ensure an accurate measure of each students progress

SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessments) will ...

- * Be administered the last 12 weeks of school in grades 3-8 and 11 for English Language Arts and Mathematics
- * Implementation will begin in the 2014-2015 school year
- * Include multiple choice, constructed response, extended response and performance tasks
- * Utilize computer adaptive testing

What is Computer Adaptive Testing?

- * Assessments adjust to the student
- * Represents an improvement over the paper and pencil assessments
- * Provides for more accurate scores
- * Will allow us to have score in weeks rather than months

Websites for more information

- * www.sde.ct.gov
- * www.smarterbalanced.org
- * <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards>