

# Pleasanton Unified School District

## Common Core State Standards

### Fact Sheet

#### College and Career Ready Graduates

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On August 2, 2010, the California State Board of Education voted unanimously to adopt new standards for both Mathematics and English Language Arts and Literacy. These standards will replace the current California Content Standards beginning the 2014-15 school year. For the first time ever, students in California will learn the same standards as students across the nation. Parents, educators, content experts, researchers, national organizations, and community groups from forty-eight states, two territories, and the District of Columbia all participated in the development of the standards. The new standards are rigorous, research-based, and designed to prepare every student for success in college and the workforce.

#### Benefits for Students

- Students moving from different communities or states will have a smoother transition because the standards remain constant.
- Students will be prepared with the knowledge and skills to succeed in college and careers.
- Students will be able to apply their learning to real life.

#### Benefits for Educators

- Educators will be able to narrow and deepen their focus because there are fewer standards.
- Educators will be able to teach for greater understanding in each unit of study.
- Educators will have clear goals for student learning and achievement in Mathematics and English Language Arts and Literacy in each grade.

#### Benefits for Parents

- Parents will understand what students need to know at each step in their education.
- Parents will be assured that students have access to the same high-quality education other students receive throughout the United States.

#### At-a-Glance

##### English Language Arts and Literacy

The standards are organized by grade level for kindergarten through grade eight and by grade span for high school. Instruction:

- Balances reading literature with informational text
- Balances narrative writing with informational, expository writing
- Focuses on critical analysis of both fiction and non-fiction
- Emphasizes vocabulary acquisition
- Fosters oral communication, collaboration, and listening skills

##### Literacy Standards in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects.

The reading and writing standards are also focused on history/social studies, science, and technical subjects.

- This reflects the role both English teachers and teachers in all other content areas play in developing the literacy skills students need for success in college and careers.
- Individuals in college, workforce training programs and the workplace will be expected to read demanding informational texts and to write informational and explanatory texts with clarity and coherence.
- These standards outline the literacy skills necessary to prepare students for those future challenges.

##### Mathematics

The standards are organized by domain for kindergarten through grade eight and by conceptual categories for high school.

Instruction:

- Focuses on arithmetic and fluency with whole numbers at early grades
- Promotes fluency with fractions and decimals
- Ensures Algebra readiness and established grade eight standards
- Uses real world applications through modeling