



MEMORANDUM

To: Members and Staff of the Senate & Assembly Education and Fiscal Committees
Members and Staff, State Board of Education
Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell
CDE Leadership Staff
Legislative Analyst Office

FR: Association of California School Administrators
Sherry Skelly Griffith, Governmental Relations

RE: **Transition to California Common Core (CCC) –
Recommendations from Education Leaders**

Recently we solicited input from our leadership across the state to seek advice on what is needed to effectively transition to the recently adopted California Common Core (CCC). We posed to our members statewide: *What Support and Resources Will You Need to Transition to California Common Core?*

In anticipation of the development of a state implementation plan for California Common Core, ACSA is submitting the following summarized input for your use as the state proceeds with a comprehensive plan of implementation. If you should have any questions please contact Sherry Skelly Griffith at sgriffith@acsa.org or (916) 955-1699.

Common Core Timelines and Communication Needed by Educators from the State:

- Ensure there is a statewide message on implementation and understanding of what California Common Core is and how it differs or compliments current CA. Standards.
- Immediately distribute to the field a timeline from the state that identifies key deadlines on all aspects of implementation. Include a crosswalk between current and future standards.
- Backward map a timeline based on new assessments to allow educators to plan instruction.
- Distribute a clear roll-out plan for implementation that includes availability of funding, instructional materials, professional development and timeline of change to accountability system.
- Create a state website on Common Core to assist educators

Educators would like the following support for the transition to Common Core:

- Ensure California’s English Language Development standards are aligned to Common Core and the needs of students with disabilities will be addressed.
- Ensure that full funding is provided up front for the transition, any new instructional materials and the necessary professional development to implement Common Core.
- A comparison of current CA. standards to new Common Core standards. Show alignment by content and by grade.
- Support materials tied into new Core standards to use between now and when new textbooks are adopted.
- Identify gaps in current textbooks that don’t meet Common Core and develop and provide the field free of charge, supplemental materials that meet common core.
- Develop and provide a crosswalk between Career Technical Education courses and new common core so CTE teachers can begin to incorporate Common Core into their lesson plans.
- University credentialing programs must begin the transition immediately to incorporate Common Core into their education programs.
- State and regional workshops on what is Common Core.
- Communication to all stakeholders. State ensures messaging reaches teachers.

Educators Recommend Curriculum, Resources and Assessment Support:

- State must ensure professional development for teachers and administrators ongoing, through implementation period.
- Teacher time needs to be built into instructional day and year to study and “unpack” the new Common Core so teachers can begin to align lessons and develop instructional strategies.
- State provides key to essential standards and how Common Core aligns with assessments.
- Provide a matrix between current CA. standards and new Common Core.
- Provide on-line resources to students and educators. Transition most if not all resources to on-line and technology based.
- By content and grade level the state must create documents that illuminate changes and additions from current standards to Common Core.
- Align testing blueprints to Common Core and notify educators when the transition will occur (not just testing directors but an entire statewide campaign to inform educators).
- Assist educators with using the current standards aligned materials and how to supplement with the new Common Core.
- State share best practices during transition to Common Core.
- Calibrate the accountability timeline so that academic growth is based on two years of new Common Core data so it is a comparison of “apples to apples.”

