

## Benefits of the Common Core State Standards

The CCSS are a clear set of shared goals and expectations of the knowledge and skills that will help students succeed. The standards have been built from the best state standards in the country. They are evidence-based, include rigorous content and skills, and are informed by other top performing countries.

**Preparation:** The standards foster college and career readiness.

**Competition:** The standards are internationally benchmarked

**Equity:** The expectations of the standards are consistent for all and not dependent on a student's zip code.

**Clarity:** The standards are focused, coherent, and clear.

**Collaboration:** The standards create a foundation to work collaboratively across states and districts.

## For More Information

**Common Core State Standards:** <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards>

**Frequently Asked Questions:** <http://www.corestandards.org/frequently-asked-questions>

## Transitioning to CCSS in Greenville County Schools

Greenville County Schools began the transition to CCSS in 2010-2011 with professional development for teachers to enhance their understanding of the new standards. Professional development continues as teachers guide their students to meet the rigorous expectations of Common Core State Standards.

## ASSESSMENT TIMELINE

**2011-2012:** Assessment based on 2007 SC mathematics and 2008 SC ELA standards

**2012-2013:** Assessment based on 2007 SC mathematics and 2008 SC ELA standards

**2013-2014:** Assessment based on what is common to SC mathematics and ELA standards and CCSS

**2014-2015:** Assessment based on CCSS developed by SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium will be administered to students in grades 3-8 and 11.

## SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT CONSORTIUM

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium is one of two multistate consortia awarded funding from the U.S. Department of Education to develop an assessment system based on the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

# Greenville County School District & the Common Core State Standards

---

**Preparing Students for  
Success in the 21st Century**



**December 2012**

# COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

## About the CCSS

South Carolina has adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for K-12 mathematics and English Language Arts, as well as literacy standards for Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects.

The State Board of Education and the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) approved the use of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) as South Carolina's Academic Standards on July 14, 2010.

## What Parents and Students Need to Know

- CCSS require rigorous knowledge and skills needed to succeed in college or careers.
- Relevant content and application of knowledge through higher-order thinking skills is essential.
- Standards will be the same for all students in states adopting the CCSS, making transitions smoother for students.

## Key Features of the Common Core State Standards

### English Language Arts and Literacy in Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

**Reading:** The Reading Standards place equal emphasis on the sophistication of what students read and the skill with which they read literature as well as Science and Social Studies texts.

**Writing:** The Writing Standards require specific writing types: argumentative/opinion, informative/explanatory, narratives, and research projects.

**Speaking and Listening:** The Speaking and Listening Standards require students to develop a range of broadly-useful oral communication and interpersonal skills in all subject areas.

**Language:** The Language Standards include the essential rules of standard written and spoken English. They also require vocabulary to be addressed in the context of reading, writing, speaking and listening across all subject areas.

### Mathematics

**Mathematical Practices:** The Standards for Mathematical Practices rest on important processes and proficiencies with longstanding importance in mathematics education. Among the practices of greatest importance are those that address problem-solving, reasoning, and modeling with mathematics.

**Mathematical Content:** The Standards for Mathematical Content are a balanced combination of procedure and understanding. K-5 students develop a strong concrete-to-conceptual foundation in number operations, including fractions and decimals. Middle School students develop an understanding of algebra, geometry, probability and statistics. High School students apply mathematical thinking in novel situations that mirror the expectations for college students and future employees in their chosen careers.