

## California Common Core State Standards

Rocklin Unified School District continues to be a leader in the county, state and nation for student achievement. In 2010, the California Common Core State Standards (CCCSS) are adopted to replace the existing California State Standards to prepare students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Preparation:** The CCCSS were backwards planned from the expectations of Higher Education and Career Partners. They promote the use of literacy in other subjects and mathematics in daily life.

**Competition:** The standards are internationally benchmarked, ensuring our students are globally competitive.

**Equity:** Expectations are consistent for all and not dependent on where a child lives or goes to school.

### Clarity:

- Focus- fewer concepts at each grade level at a greater degree of mastery.
- Coherent- a solid foundation for students through connections to learning across grade levels.

**Collaboration:** The CCCSS allow for collaborative work across states toward increasing student achievement.

## Preparing Students for Career and College

The California Common Core State Standards (CCCSS) emphasize the following key components:

- Critical thinking/Problem Solving skills
- Deep understanding of important concepts (Depth of Knowledge)
- Real-world application

Here is an example 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Reading Standard:

1997 CA Standard	CCCSS
3.2 Comprehend basic plots of classic fairy tales, myths, folktales, legends and fables from around the world.	2. Recount stories, including fables, folktales and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

Here is a 9-10 grade example:

1997 CA Standard	CCCSS
2.5 Write business letters	2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

## Rocklin Unified School District CCCSS Implementation Plan

Our district is committed to implementing a successful transition from our current state standards and assessments to the new CCCSS and Smarter Balanced assessments.

- **2011-2012** —Awareness Year-Phase 1: The “What”-unifying the understanding of CCCSS through the lens of Webb’s Depth of Knowledge.
- **2012-2013**—Building Educator Capacity Year-Phase 2: The “How to Teach it”-a construct for teachers to learn about and represent their shifts through planning effective CCCSS lessons that integrate research-based strategies.
- **2013-2014**—Classroom Transition Year-Phase 3: The Teaching/Learning Cycle- The focus will be on deepening content knowledge, building effective instructional practice and assessing student outcomes.
- **2014-2015**—Implementation and Assessment Year-Phase 4: Full implementation of CCCSS with new state assessments in spring and data analysis to continually improve instruction and student learning.

## Transitioning to the CCCSS: What Families Can Do Now

- Encourage your child to read many types of books/articles and not just stories.
- Ask your child opinions about book/articles and what evidence in the book/article supports their thinking.
- Expand vocabulary by talking about new words from reading and using them in new situations and daily life.
- Emphasize critical (new) thinking and writing about what they are reading.
- Make math an everyday part of your family.
- Connect math to the real world, for example designing, measuring and graphing a garden.
- Ask more “why” questions to get them thinking-even if the answers are unknown.
- When faced with a difficult problem, encourage your child to stick with it and persevere.
- Talk about math in positive ways and praise all effort!

## Assessment System

Currently, California students in grades 2-11 are tested annually through STAR assessment system to measure knowledge on grade level standards. New assessments aligned to CCCSS begin in spring of the 2014-2015 school year. These new assessments will focus more on demonstration and application of knowledge. California is a part of the Smarter Balanced Consortium, a group who has been charged with developing the new assessments.

## Resources for Families

### Rocklin Unified School District

<http://www.rocklinusd.org/>

### California Department of Education CCSS Web Page:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/> (select “Students/Parents” tab)

### California's Common Core Standards Parent Handbook:

[http://www.ccsesa.org/sysadmin/documents/CCSParentHandbook\\_020411.doc](http://www.ccsesa.org/sysadmin/documents/CCSParentHandbook_020411.doc)

### SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium Information:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/smarterbalanced.asp>



## California Common Core State Standards For Families



Rocklin Unified School District  
[www.rocklinusd.org](http://www.rocklinusd.org)