

September 2014 Monthly Resources:



Dear Common Core Implementation Team Member,

Greetings and Happy Back to School Days!

We are all wondering where summer went, while looking forward to the new school year 2014-2015! As the Interim Chief Academic Officer, I welcome you back to school and wish you and your students a very rewarding and exciting year ahead. I hope you find the resources in this September 2014 CCIT blast helpful as you continue the important work of guiding students toward mastery of the Common Core State Standards and engaging them in critical thinking and curiosity about the world around them.

Here's a sampling of what you'll find in this month's blast: a new site for shared Common Core implementation success stories; a website providing a compendium of important Common Core research; web-based videos on classroom demonstrations of aligned CCSS curriculum as well as NJDOE's curriculum evaluation tool for Math and ELA; an online opportunity to obtain free EQUiP peer panel reviews of your lessons; myths versus facts on math standards--and much more!



I. General Common Core Resources

- **CCSS Forward: State Resources and Success Stories to Implement the CC:**

CCSSO has introduced the "CCSS Forward" website which will house shared tools and resources from over 40 states for implementing the Common Core. CCSS Forward is designed to highlight those items, provide updates on new resources, and spotlight state leadership with Common Core implementation.

http://www.ccsso.org/CCSS_Forward_State_Resources_and_Success_Stories_to_Implement_the_Common_Core.html

- **A Compendium of Research on the Common Core State Standards:**

The Center on Education Policy (CEP) is a national, independent advocate for public education funded through charitable foundations and located within George Washington University's Graduate School of Education. The CEP has developed a compendium summarizing published research on different aspects of the Common Core to create an accessible overview of current research informing implementation, policy discussions, and development of future research.

<http://www.cep-dc.org/displayDocument.cfm?DocumentID=438>



- **NJ Educator Resource Exchange:**

NJCore.org has three new content areas: An Administrator's Toolkit, an Educator Collection, and a Family Corner. Educators can search now by category, standards, role and /or keyword. Upload common core materials to become a Resource Leader earning online badges for every 5, 15, and 30 resources contributed to the site and watch for CCSS aligned resources from national partners this fall.

www.njcore.org

- **Illinois State Board of Education**

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) website offers teachers a set of "Capture the Core" newsletters designed for each grade level, K-12. The information may be helpful to NJ teachers as well.

http://www.isbe.state.il.us/common_core/htmls/news.htm



II.

Evaluation Tools for Common Core Curriculum Materials

- **Achieve and Teaching Channel Partnership to Release Videos for Teachers:**

Achieve and Teaching Channel have partnered and released three new videos introducing and exploring Achieve's Evaluating Quality Instructional Products (EQuIP) initiative. The free videos, *Strengthening Lessons for the CCSS*, introduce the EQuIP Peer Review process and show teachers using the Math and ELA rubrics to evaluate quality and alignment of lessons and units. Teachers can submit a lesson on this site to obtain a **free peer panel review using EQuIP** to determine CCSS alignment.

<https://www.teachingchannel.org/blog/2014/08/08/video-playlist-strengthening-lessons-for-the-ccss-equip/>



- **NJDOE CCSS Implementation Curriculum Evaluation Tool:**

Last spring 2014, NJDOE created a CCSS Implementation Curriculum Evaluation Tool for use in assessing district curriculum. The tool is designed to guide self-assessment, reflection, review and, if necessary, revision of curriculum to ensure Common Core alignment and preparation for 2015 state assessments. Links to the tool's Math and ELA rubrics are posted on this site. Any questions can be directed to Jeannette Larkins, Office of Academic Standards at

(jeannette.larkins@doe.state.nj.us).

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/evaluation/>



III. Further Reading on the Common Core

- **“Core Truths” on the Common Core Mathematics Standards:**

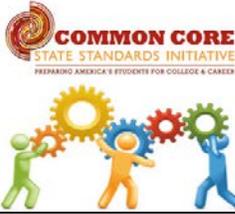
Diane Bars, President of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) writes in this July 2014 article about common misperceptions surrounding development of the Common Core mathematics standards. She asserts that contrary to various “myths” about the standards, they were **based on evidence about how students learn mathematics and many math teachers contributed to their development.**

<http://www.nctm.org/about/content.aspx?id=42685>

- **"How the Common Core Must Ensure Equity by Fully Preparing Every Student for Postsecondary Success":**

In this 2013 paper, The New England Equity Assistance Center (NEEAC), a program of [The Education Alliance at Brown University](http://www.brown.edu/initiatives/new-england-equity-assistance-center/sites/brown.edu/initiatives/new-england-equity-assistance-center/files/uploads/EquityAssistanceCenterspublication.pdf) funded by the US DOE, outlines six equity goals and recommendations educators should consider if the needs of all learners are to be appropriately and adequately met through implementation of the Common Core. The NEEAC is one of 10 regional centers which help states, districts, and public schools plan and implement policies and practices that promote access to high-quality education for all students.

<http://www.brown.edu/initiatives/new-england-equity-assistance-center/sites/brown.edu/initiatives/new-england-equity-assistance-center/files/uploads/EquityAssistanceCenterspublication.pdf>



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**NJCore.org
 What's Trending?
 (<http://njcore.org/>)**

- Badge awards for resource contributions levels.
- Featured content area on homepage

	Month (August)	Since Launch
Number of Registered Educators	27	2,022
Number of Visitors	5,320	79,474
Top 5 Districts	#1	Trenton
	#2	Passaic
	#3	Bayonne
	#4	Paterson
	#5	Mount Laurel