

## May 2015 CCIT Resources:



**Dear Common Core Implementation Team Member,**

While May 4 through 8 is officially **Teacher Appreciation Week**, my team and I thank you *every* week of the school year for all you do for students from September to June and beyond! New assessments and other ongoing reforms have meant additional challenges for all of us this spring, but you have been the key to a smooth transition for students and their families.

This month's listserv offers more resources on Department initiatives as well as opportunities for end-of-year professional learning. We will see you in June with more news and hope you'll continue sending ideas and suggestions to [njcore@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:njcore@doe.state.nj.us).

Kimberley Harrington, Chief Academic Officer, Division of Academics



### **Common Core State Standards**

- **NJ Educator Resource Exchange (NJCore.org)**

What's new at NJCore.org for May? Have you seen the Administrators' Toolbox, the Educators' Collection and the Family Corner? Visit the site to see new uploads of instructional resources from your colleagues --and consider sharing yours! We'll bring you news of exciting changes in the months ahead. Meanwhile, keep your feedback coming to [njcore@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:njcore@doe.state.nj.us)!

[www.njcore.org](http://www.njcore.org)

- **Social Studies Resources Connected to the Common Core State Standards**

The Department's Content Coordinator for Social Studies, Ms. Beverly Plein, has developed a web link listing numerous social studies related resources connected to the Common Core State Standards. The site contains standards documents, primary and secondary sources, maps, instructional practice videos, lessons, assessments and professional development offerings.

<http://tinyurl.com/ssresource>

- **Cogito.org website offers international STEM connections to students**

This website, created by the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth, provides an online community for students interested in science, technology, engineering and math. Opportunities include online interviews with scientists and mathematicians, shared learning about what students are doing across the world, updates on scientific developments, and access to a database of STEM-focused camps, events, and competitions.

[www.cogito.org](http://www.cogito.org)

- **Be a Learning Hero Website for Families and Students**

This website is supported by a group of organizations, including the National PTA, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the Council of Great City Schools, to provide parents and guardians with the information they need to help their children with school success. The site offers tips on math homework, reading, answers about the new online assessments and much more.

<http://bealearninghero.org/>



## **Spotlight on Local NJ District Educators Implementing Standards**

- **Upper Saddle River School Students Make Social Studies and ELA Connections**

Through a partnership with Teachers College at Columbia University, Upper Saddle River School educators created a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade immigration unit incorporating lecture and learning centers, blending Social Studies and Common Core Language Arts knowledge and skills. The students are “being asked to analyze and interpret information through hands-on experiences” building thinking skills also needed in the new PARCC assessments.

<http://www.northjersey.com/news/education/students-make-connections-through-hands-on-learning-1.1305648>



**Note:** We'd like to share what local districts are doing to help students, families and community better understand the benefits of CCSS and PARCC assessments. Please send information about your district to [nicore@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:nicore@doe.state.nj.us) and we'll post it here!

- **PARCC Online offers “News and Updates”**

The current PARCC “News and Updates” website includes news of a video created by several education organizations in Illinois. The video includes an appearance by Lianne Markus, a NJ educator! Check this site regularly for more news about PARCC.

<http://www.parcconline.org/video-highlight-what-parcc>



### Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

- **April NGSS NOW newsletter article on NJ’s West Milford School District**

Find current news and updates on NGSS from around the country at this website. The current newsletter includes an article (see #9) on how NJ’s West Milford School District (Bergen) is preparing for implementing the new science standards in 2016-2017. K-12 Supervisor of Science Eric Siegal talks about how the district is encouraging students “to model what scientists do every day: that is, gather information, analyze data, present that data, and argue.”

<http://www.nextgenscience.org/april-ngss-now-newsletter>



### Financial Literacy and the Common Core State Standards

- **Volunteer with the New Jersey Junior Achievement BizTown Program**

**JA BizTown®** is a free, Common Core standards-aligned real world learning program for 5th and 6th grade students in NJ schools. Culminating activities include a fully-interactive, day-long visit to the simulated city of BizTown where students take on various roles managing 14 businesses and engaging in activities as consumers and citizens. For information on how educators can volunteer with the program, see the website below.

<http://janj.org/docs/JA%20BizTown%20Volunteer%20Recruitment%20Flyer.pdf>



## **FREE Audio-Visual: Webinars, TV, Videos and Technology Apps**

- **Common Core Quest App for Educators, Parents and Students**

This free app allows educators to create standards-aligned assignments and automatic grading online for students using any electronic device. New assignments can be automatically given based on how students perform on tests and other evaluations. Teachers, parents and students can use the app to gauge mastery of the Common Core State Standards in mathematics and ELA.

<http://commoncorequest.opened.io/ccquest-learn-more/>

- **CCSSO Implement the Common Core Standards (ICCS) Webinars**

[http://www.ccsso.org/CCSS\\_Forward\\_State\\_Resources\\_and\\_Success\\_Stories\\_to\\_Implement\\_the\\_Common\\_Core/Webinars\\_and\\_Newsletters.html](http://www.ccsso.org/CCSS_Forward_State_Resources_and_Success_Stories_to_Implement_the_Common_Core/Webinars_and_Newsletters.html)

- **edWeb.net Webinars**

<http://home.edweb.net/upcoming-webinars/>

- **ASCD Webinars**

<http://www.ascd.org/professional-development/webinars.aspx>

- **Education Week Webinars**

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/marketplace/webinars/webinars.html?intc=thed>



## **YOU are a CCSS and PARCC Resource!**

- **EQuIP Seeks Your High-Quality Materials Aligned to Common Core**

Achieve.org is joining Student Achievement Partners in asking K-12 educators nationwide to submit their best academic materials for review using EQuIP. Teachers are creating a larger demand for more web-based instructional materials aligned to the ELA and Mathematics Common Core standards to download and use. If your lessons and units meet the criteria, compensation and national recognition are to be awarded. The deadline for submission is **June 3, 2015**. See the website below for more information about the process.

[www.achieve.org/new-equip-call-action-seeks-high-quality-materials-aligned-common-core](http://www.achieve.org/new-equip-call-action-seeks-high-quality-materials-aligned-common-core)

- **ASCD Express Invites Content for June and July Issues: *Words, Words, Words***

*ASCD Express* is a free e-newsletter published twice monthly with “practical, actionable strategies and information” written by and for practitioners. Editors are now accepting 600-1,000 word essays or 10-minute multimedia pieces for summer editions. **For the July issue, submissions are due May 15**, and editors seek “practical guidance for first-year teachers, whether just out of college or switching careers.” **For the August issue, submissions are due June 1**, and should focus on “how administrators, teachers, and school staff can reach out to families...to contribute to their child’s academic achievement and to the school’s effectiveness.

<http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/Themes/Write-for-ASCD-Express.aspx#themes>

- **ASCD Educational Leadership Seeks Articles for Future Issues**

*ASCD Educational Leadership* is a journal published monthly with an online issue covering June through August. The editors are currently looking for articles to appear in the November 2015 edition on “Doing Data Right.” They are looking for articles focused on “how educators can extract useful data (both quantitative and qualitative) from the flood of information available, cope efficiently with data they're required to gather, and generate learning-centered information about their students and schools.” **Submissions are due June 1.**

<http://www.ascd.org/Publications/Educational-Leadership/Upcoming-Themes.aspx>

- **Learning Forward’s Journal of Staff Development (JSD) Invites You to Write**

The December 2015 issue of JSD theme will be “Professional Learning for Literacy.” The articles will focus on “literacy as critical to improving student achievement at every school level.” **Submissions are due May 15.** Find more information is available at the website below.

<http://learningforward.org/get-involved/write-for-us>



## **Further Reading**

- **New Jersey Council for the Social Studies (NJCSS) Teacher of the Year Awards**

The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies will present an Elementary (K-5) Teacher of the Year Award and a Secondary (6-12) Teacher of the Year Award at their annual fall conference in October. Send a nomination with three letters of recommendation by accessing the Teacher of the Year Award forms at by **June 15, 2015.**

[Click here for Elementary Teacher of the Year Award 2015](#)

[Click here for Secondary Teacher of the Year Award 2015](#)

- **Governor's STEM Scholars Program**

The Governor's STEM Scholars Program is accepting applications until Friday, May 29, 2015. The program is a public-private partnership for students interested in STEM from Grades 10 - PhD. The organizations supporting the program include the Research & Development Council of New Jersey, Governor's Office, New Jersey Department of Education, and New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education.

<http://www.govstemscholars.com/>

- **NJDOE's *The Bridge* Newsletter for Educators**

Check this website each month for *The Bridge* newsletter written for NJ K-12 educators. Each issue offers relevant and updated information on the Common Core standards and PARCC assessments, as well as other information related to the classroom.

<http://education.state.nj.us/feature/>

- **NJDOE's *Family and Community Circle* Newsletter for Parents and Guardians**

Check this website quarterly for the *Family and Community Circle* newsletter for parents, guardians and the community on the Common Core standards, PARCC assessments and other topics related to what's happening in NJ's schools.

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/parents/newsletter/>



## **FREE Professional Development Opportunities**

- **Find free NJDOE professional development offerings at our Calendar of Events**

<http://education.state.nj.us/events/>

- **Empowering the Conversation: Teaching and Learning Conference**

The New Jersey Department of Education proudly presents a conference supporting the professional learning of educators across the state of New Jersey. The Department of Education wishes to continue to empower public and non public school educators in their quest to engage in meaningful and powerful conversations. Featured speakers will include Alan November of November Learning, Patricia Wright of NJPSA, Eric Twadell, of Solution Tree, as well as Kimberley Harrington, Chief Academic Officer for the New Jersey Department of Education. Go to the link below to register.

<http://education.state.nj.us/events/details.php?recid=22621>

- **NJDOE Office of School Innovation May 12 Summit**

The Department's Office of School Innovation has announced the first *innovateNJ* School Innovation Summit on May 12 in Atlantic City. The Summit is a partnership with EdSurge, the NJ Association of School Administrators (NJASA) and the NJ Association of Pupil Services Administrators (NJASPA). This is a free event and will offer workshops, lightning round presentations by NJ educators and organizations. Attendees must register at site below.

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/innovateNJ/news/summit.html>

 <p><b>COMMON CORE</b> STATE STANDARDS INITIATIVE PREPARING AMERICA'S STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE &amp; CAREER</p>	<p><b>Do you know someone who isn't receiving these?</b></p> <p>Forward this to a colleague and encourage them to sign-up! <a href="http://education.state.nj.us/ccit/subscribe.php">http://education.state.nj.us/ccit/subscribe.php</a></p>
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	<p><b>Missed any CCIT mailings?</b></p> <p>Find previous mailings at: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/team/ccit.pdf">http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/team/ccit.pdf</a></p>
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	<p><b>How else can we help you?</b></p> <p>Send us an e-mail at <a href="mailto:njcore@doe.state.nj.us">njcore@doe.state.nj.us</a></p>
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**NJCore.org**  
**What's Trending?**

**New Features & Content on NJCORE.ORG (<http://njcore.org/>)**

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

	<b>Month (April)</b>	<b>Since Launch</b>
<b>Number of Registered Educators</b>	2	2,080
<b>Number of Visitors</b>	7,486	146,789
<b>Top 5 Districts</b>	Trenton	Trenton
	Jersey City	Passaic
	Newark	Newark
	Hoboken	Bayonne
	Glassboro	Jersey City