

A Final Note

Let your child's teacher know about any concerns you may have. Remember that changing the IEP may not take a full meeting. You can give your written consent to tweaking the goals to align them with the standards.

Contact Us

Parents of children with special needs can contact the Pathfinder Parent Center to get help to:

- Understand how to align IEP goals with the CCSS
- Learn about adaptations that help students meet CCSS
- Discriminate between fact and myths about CCSS

Teachers can contact NDU to find resources to help them teach children with special needs using the CCSS.



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Web: <http://pathfinder-nd.org>



COLLEGE & CAREER READY



COMMON CORE STANDARDS

2014

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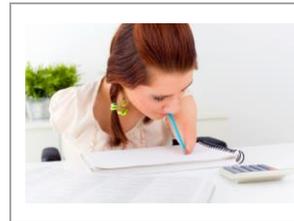
SPECIAL NEEDS

ALIGNMENT



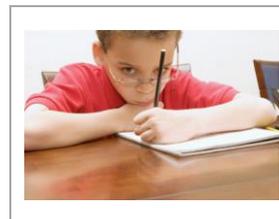
Your child's IEP or 504 plan includes strategies to help them learn. The IEP team may want to align goals with the new standards.

CHALLENGE



If your child is performing below grade level, meeting the Common Core State Standards may be challenging. Students will have to meet fewer standards but learn to do more at each level.

SUPPORT



The IEP or 504 plan may need to be adjusted to help your child improve. The team can add new supports or change the plan as needed to help your child.

Be Involved

What Can I Do to Help My Child Learn?



You can find out what your child is expected to learn **this year**. Read the Common Core State Standards for your child's grade level. Visit with your child's teacher to find out more about how to help.

The Pathfinder Parent Center has "parent-friendly" resources <http://pathfinder-nd.org> to help you learn what to expect and how to prepare your son or daughter to succeed.

"Without standards, every teacher can do whatever he or she wishes. That's not innovation. It is chaos."

Where Can I Learn More?

The ND Department of Public Instruction has great resources on the Common Core Standards at http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/standard/common_core.shtm

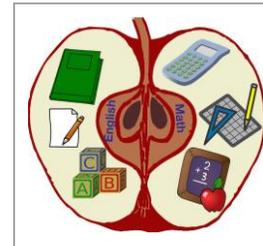
College & Career Ready

Common Core State Standards or CCSS



ND is one of over 45 states to adopt the **Common Core State Standards**.

Outcomes



A **standard** describes *what a student should know and be able to do* in core subjects like reading and math at each grade level.

Consistency



If your child moves, the new school can work on the same learning goals for their grade level. **This helps military and other highly mobile families.**

Need to Know

Standards are Important



Why? Standards provide a clear roadmap for learning. Having clear goals helps families and teachers work together to make sure that students succeed. They

help identify critical thinking skills needed to prepare for success in meeting college, technical and career goals.

“Standards are the foundation of a system that informs teaching and improves learning”

Why A Change to CCSS? The previous standards were not used anywhere outside of ND. Learning was limited because although those standards included many skills, the difficulty level was not as complex. As a result, some ND students who graduated were not college or career ready. Meeting the CCSS helps students to think critically and show greater depth in their performance. This prepares ND students to compete with students from other states.

What Does This Mean for ND Schools? Some ND schools adopted new curricula to help them meet the standards. Other schools purchased extra learning materials. Many teachers have made the transition without difficulty. Some teachers will need extra time and support to adjust their teaching because of the differences in the standards for their grade level.

Impact

What Do the CCSS Mean for ND Students?



Scores on state tests may drop for a year or two while the classroom instruction is adjusted to match the new standards and test process.



ND students can work hard and learn as well as students from other states