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## Common Core State Standards and Assessment Resource Guide

### ***Questions for your child's teachers***

Do not be afraid to ask your child's teacher questions. Teachers want you involved in your child's education. The more you know, the more you can help.

#### *Sample questions:*

1. How can we work together to create a plan for my child's success? Ask specific questions about how to build certain skills at home (e.g. reading, writing, speaking, and listening; addition and subtraction; shapes; measurement, etc.).
2. How are you supporting my child's home language and English language development in the classroom given the higher learning standards?
3. What types of training and support are you receiving to support my child's language development?
4. What types of curriculum and materials are available to support my child's language development?
5. How are you using collaboration and interaction in the classroom to help build my child's language?
6. How is your principal supporting you as a teacher as you transition to the Common Core?
7. How is the district supporting you as a teacher as you transition to the Common Core?

### ***Tips to understanding the new PARCC assessment***

*Will new standards mean more testing? Will common assessments be developed?*

As states implement new standards, they will also transition to new tests designed to better measure if students are on track for college and career readiness.

Illinois is part of a consortia developing common assessment processes and tools—the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). They replace old state testing—not add to it—and for the first time, comparable achievement information will be available from state to state.

*Will test scores drop?* This is a new system with new scoring; it is not possible to compare the new scores directly with the old state scores. What is important is that the higher standards are measured with better tests.

Because the rigor is higher, it may appear that scores have temporarily dropped; however it does not mean a student is performing worse on the new tests.

Educators expect this short-term decline to improve as teachers and students become more familiar with the Standards and better equipped to meet the challenges they present. *(Adapted from National PTA (2016):*

*[http://www.pta.org/advocacy/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3683#Will\\_new\\_standards\\_mean\\_more\\_testing?Will\\_common\\_assessments\\_be\\_developed?](http://www.pta.org/advocacy/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3683#Will_new_standards_mean_more_testing?Will_common_assessments_be_developed?)*



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### **General Information:**

“New Illinois Learning Standards: Illinois State Board of Education”

[http://www.isbe.net/common\\_core/](http://www.isbe.net/common_core/)

“Common Core Illinois: Real Learning for Real Life”

<http://commoncoreil.org/>

<http://commoncoreil.org/faq/#measuring-learning>

“Parents’ Guides to Student Success”

<http://www.pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>

“Achieve the Core”

<http://achievethecore.org/>

“Ten Things Parents Should Know about the Common Core Standards”

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/common-core/parents/faq/>

### **Recursos en Español:**

“Diez cosas que los padres deben saber sobre los Estándares Estatales de Educación”

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/articulo/53566/>

“Guías de Common Core Por Grado”

<http://noticias.univision.com/article/1937434/2014-04-30/educacion/estandares-academicos-estatales/guias-de-common-core-por-grado?ftloc=collection14283:wcmWidgetUimHulkDeckCards1x3>

“Que son los Common Core Standards?”

[http://noticias.univision.com/video/309789/2014-03-13/educacion/estandares-academicos-estatales/es-el-momento-estandares-academicos-fundamentales-common-core?ctx\\_t=collection&ctx\\_v=f31af3b78679530a60dbaf4d978495f2~dc41e59a55a9f0353e089f9510ccdd5b](http://noticias.univision.com/video/309789/2014-03-13/educacion/estandares-academicos-estatales/es-el-momento-estandares-academicos-fundamentales-common-core?ctx_t=collection&ctx_v=f31af3b78679530a60dbaf4d978495f2~dc41e59a55a9f0353e089f9510ccdd5b)

“Especial: Estándares educativos esenciales”

<http://noticias.univision.com/article/1111857/2013-06-06/educacion/estandares-comunes-common-core-standards>

### **Specific to English Learners:**

“What Does the Common Core Mean for English Language Learners?”

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/common-core/ells/>

“English Learners and the Common Core Standards”

<http://www.californianstogether.org/reports/>

“Aligning with Language Proficiency Standards”

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/common-core/ells/standards/>

“WIDA: Alignment”

<http://www.wida.us/Research/agenda/Alignment/>

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