Missouri Baptist University

Troy/Wentzville

sASCD Meeting

Sheryl Mills & Crystal Jordan: A few of us have been talking about fundraisers for the sMSTA conference in November in Kansas City and the sASCD conference in March in Chicago. Anyone willing to work on fundraisers to go, contact them. Deadline for sMSTA is Friday.

Speaker: Elaine Henderson, Silex Superintendent --- Common Core State Standards

There are many people who are selling items as “Common Core” related. Make sure you understand what the standards are so you aren’t caught.

* Handout from workshop with speaker, William Daggett. Talks about rigor and relevance, primarily in the high school, but in education.
* Presented on Common Core Standards. Handout is a 8th grade Math assessment in 2015 when they roll out all of the new assessments.

Common Core State Standards

* Combination of a lot of skills pulled together to reflect real-world situations
* College and career-readiness: has to be a part of every lesson
* Ready or Not
  + Creating a high school diploma that counts
    - Study that initiated the Common Core Standards Initiative
  + College and Career Readiness
    - Driving the initiative
  + June 2009 Initiative – when this all started
  + 45 states have adopted the standards
    - The concepts taught are the same with the same amount of rigor.
    - TX, VA, AK, NE, MN are the five hold-outs.
  + June 2010-Missouri adopted the Common Core
  + 2014-15 full implementation
* Being driving by…
  + Being driving by the growing gap between the changing world, school improvement, and the students’ readiness.
  + Harkens back to the education of old – preparing students for going to college or being in the workforce.
  + Some of MO’s MAP test questions are not productive. No end result for that question.
* Acronyms
  + CCSS – Common Core State Standards
  + CAS – Core Academic Standards (MO)
  + CCR – College and Career Readiness
  + ELA – English Language Arts (takes place of Communication arts)
  + ELO – Essential Learning Outcome (objective)
  + RttT – Race to the Top (reform initiative/companion piece to No Child Left Behind; big report from Obama and Arnie Duncan on how to take education from where it is now to where we want to be competitively. Part of getting so many states to adopt, you have to be in it to receive federal funds.)
  + Formative Assessment – check for learning
  + Summative Assessment – testing for learning
    - PARCC – Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers
* Road Map (cycle)
  + State Standards led to State Tests
  + State Standards led to Research
  + State Standards led to CCSS
  + CCSS led to State Standards
* Challenges
  + 1. Instruction NOT content
    - Fundamental ideas and concepts and drills down
    - Instruction is not going to be so much the “what” but the “how” and the thinking process and problem solving skills getting across to the kids.
    - Students understanding different ways to solve problems and choosing which one fits them best.
    - Transition piece: students learning to thinking through and persevering to an answer; not simply asking “is this right?”
  + 2. Literacy and Math across the curriculum
    - Concepts are across the board.
  + 3. Good to Great
    - MO’s test are at the top of rigor (against all the other states); we’re good, but not great.
* Reading Study Summary
  + Interquartile Ranges Shown (25%-75%) – Text Lexile Measure (L)
    - High School Literature – 750-950 L
    - College Literature – 825-1050 L
    - High School Textbooks – 975-1125 L
    - College Textbooks – 1100-1325 L
    - Military – 1175-1225 L
    - Personal – 1175-1350 L
    - Entry-Level Occupations – 1175-1375 L
    - SAT 1, ACT, AP – 1125-1225 L
  + These are drivers behind the Common Core: need to get kids reading and literate at a high level.
* Common Core Standards
  + Fewer – more focused
  + Clearer – coherent and aligned
  + Higher – rigorous
  + 21st Century - relevant
* Instructional Shifts in ELA and Content Area Literacy
  + Text complexity
  + High-quality text-dependent questions and tasks
    - Reading something and answering questions; not writing a “friendly letter.”
  + Range and quality of texts
  + Focus on Academic and domain-specific vocabulary
    - Inherent in a particular discipline – ie: if you had “plot” – means something different in English, Math, Science; kids don’t necessarily transfer this
  + Writing and research and analyze sources and deploy evidence
    - Non-fiction will be avenue Common Core will be steering toward.
* Instructional Shifts in ELA
  + Students read a balance of informational and literary texts. In elementary, at least 50% of what students read is informational; in middle school, it is 55%; by the end of high school, 70% (CCSS Introduction, p 5).
  + Elementary and secondary **students are not required to read enough informational text independently even** though expository **text**
  + vast majority of the required reading
  + and the workplace. (CCSS Appendix ,
  + Students have rich and rigorous conversations centered around a common text. Teachers ensure classroom experiences stay deeply connected to the text and that students develop habits for making evidentiary arguments based on the text, both in conversation as well as in writing, to assess their comprehension of a text (Appendix A, p. 2)
  + Writing instruction emphasizes
  + evidence to inform or to make an argument
  + short, focused research projects K-12 (Appendix A, p 24-26).
* Instructional Shifts in Mathematics
  + Reasoning to make sense of mathematics
  + Productive use of discourse when explaining and justifying mathematical thinking
  + Procedural fluency (flexibility, accuracy, efficiency)
  + X
  + Shift 1: FOCUS
  + Shift 2: COHERENCE
  + Shift 3: RIGOR
    - K-2 Computation
    - 3-5 Fractions
    - K-5 Algebra
    - 6-7 Ratios and Proportions
    - 8 Systems of Equations
    - High School
      * Modeling
      * Statistics and probability
      * Geometry proofs
* Assessment will be done on computer and will advance on students’ understanding.