



Implementing the Common Core Standards (ICCS)

Issue 2 • June 27, 2011

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to announce that registration is open for the August 4-6 Implementing the Common Core Standards collaborative meeting. We look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis! Below you will find information and updates on some of the promising resources in development to support the Common Core State Standards. In the future, if you have additional items you would like to add to the newsletter, please send them to Margaret Millar, margaretm@ccsso.org.

Thank you,

Carrie Heath Phillips

Director, Common Core Implementation

Council of Chief State School Officers

Registration Open for ICCS August Meeting

- We would like to invite you to attend the CCSSO Implementing the Common Core Standards Meeting on August 4-6, 2011 in Minneapolis, MN.
- To register for this meeting, please visit <http://events.ccsso.org/conference/>. Upon registration, you will receive information via email about booking your flight through our online Egencia system.
- Please remember to contact the hotel directly to book your hotel reservations. To ensure you receive the group rate of \$189, please call the Hilton Minneapolis (612.376.1000) before the cut-off date of Thursday, July 14, 2011 and reference that you are with the ICCS meeting.
- We ask that you specifically invite your Public Information Officer (PIO) to attend this meeting. If your PIO is an addition to the original six members of your team, CCSSO will cover two nights of hotel and the airfare for your PIO. We would like to include your PIO in conversations about communications.
- To see a draft meeting agenda, please click August ICCS Draft Meeting Agenda.

CCSSO Offers New ELA SCASS

- **CCSSO is offering a new state collaborative on English Language Arts (ELA) in 2011-2012. This new collaborative will focus on the challenges around standards and student assessments in ELA and the opportunities for state collaboration.**
- We are pleased to announce that Susan Pimentel, a lead writer for the Common Core State Standards for ELA, has agreed to serve as the advisor to work with members of this collaborative.
- Information on the costs and the process to become a SCASS member are found at:
www.ccsso.org/scass

ICCS Collaborative Site

- The ICCS collaborative site, which will be a forum for states to share resources and collaborate online, is currently under development. CCSSO has contracted with Higher Logic to develop a dynamic, user-friendly, secure site that will facilitate cross-state sharing. The release date of the site will be **Thursday, June 30, 2011**.
- In preparation for the launch of the site, we continue to collect state documents to populate the resource library. Thank you to Oregon for sending a number of excellent state implementation resources.
- Please send documents and resources to Margaret Millar (margaretm@ccsso.org). For more information on submitting resources, please see this one page [handout](#).

Accountability Principles and Roadmap Released

- CCSSO recently announced that 42 states and D.C. have agreed to work together to dramatically improve student achievement through the development and implementation of improved state accountability systems. [The Principles for State Leadership on Next-Generation Accountability Systems](#)(Principles) and [Roadmap](#)were developed by the Next Generation Accountability Taskforce, a bipartisan group of state education officials convened by CCSSO, and endorsed by states across the nation.
- This agreement provides a clear avenue for Congress to update and reauthorize the accountability provisions within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and if reauthorization is not completed, paves the way for state developed waiver proposals as described in the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2002.

Promising Resources

- David Coleman and Sue Pimentel, lead writers of the English Language Arts (ELA) standards have just released a new tool for reviewing ELA curricular resources. The publisher's criteria serves as informal guidance from the authors of the Common Core Literacy Standards meant to support districts and states in developing and reviewing materials aligned with the core.
- [Publisher's Criteria in ELA and Literacy, Grades K-2](#)
- [Publisher's Criteria in ELA and Literacy, Grades 3-12](#)

Upcoming Tools and Resources

- CCSSO is currently completing final edits on an Implementing the Common Core Standards communications toolkit. This toolkit will serve as an update to the Common Core adoption toolkit. This toolkit should be distributed by the first week in July.

In partnership with the Hunt Institute, CCSSO is in the process of editing videotapes of the lead writers of the standards in ELA and Mathematics to make available to states and other stakeholders. These videos will be available for you to use in professional development and communications within your state by the middle of July. We will make them available on the ICCS collaborative site for download.