



**THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS:
MOVING BEYOND AWARENESS TO CLASSROOM
IMPLEMENTATION AND ASSESSMENT**

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WASHINGTON, DC
SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

Common Core State Standards

⌘ Bipartisan initiative of state leaders

- led by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and National Governors Association (NGA)
- developed K-12 standards in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics

College and Career Readiness: Anchor for the Common Core

- ⌘ There is a gap between high school expectations for students and what students are expected to do in college/career.
 - Among high school graduates, only half are academically prepared for postsecondary education (Greene & Winters, 2005).
- ⌘ Career-readiness and college-readiness levels are very similar.
- ⌘ K-12 standards were back-mapped from college and career expectations.

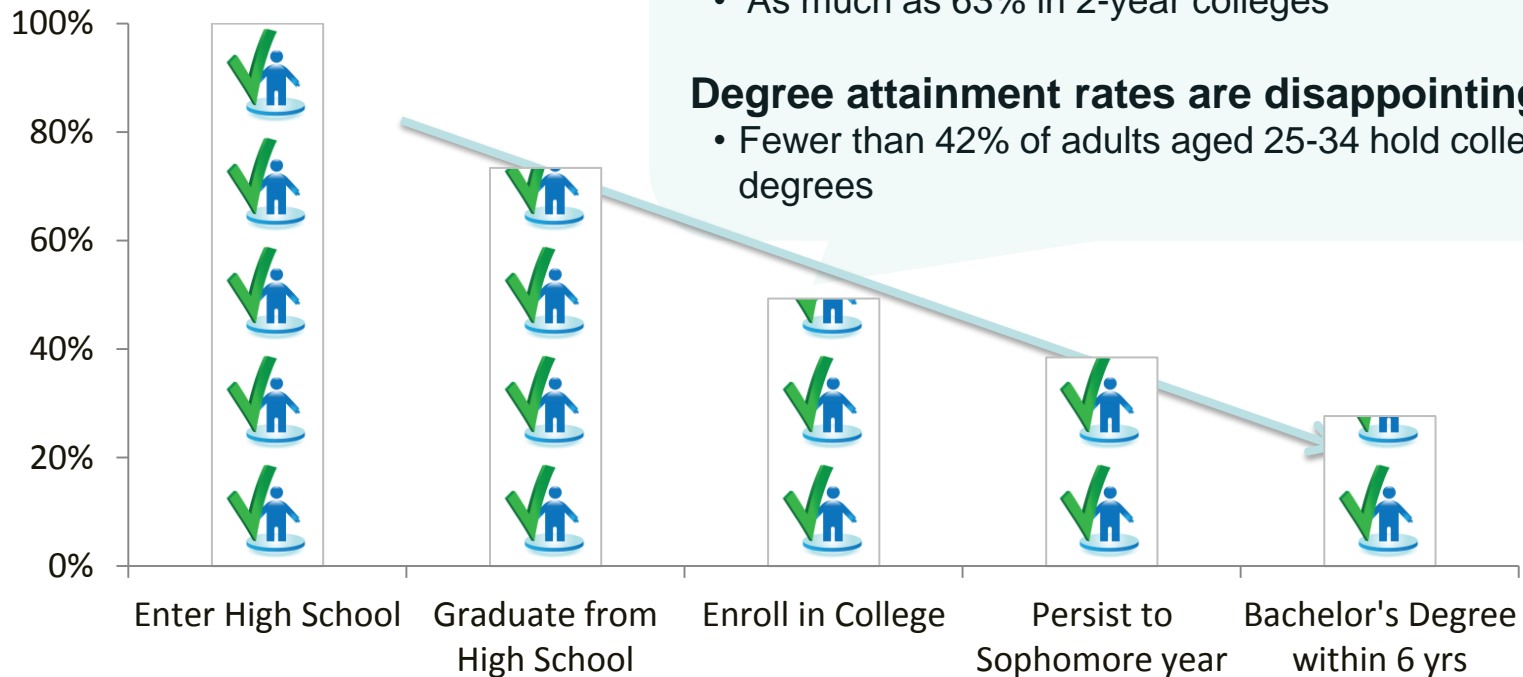
College Remediation and Graduation Rates

Remediation rates and costs are staggering

- As much as 40% of all students entering 4-year colleges need remediation in one or more courses
- As much as 63% in 2-year colleges

Degree attainment rates are disappointing

- Fewer than 42% of adults aged 25-34 hold college degrees



Why Common Standards?

Consistency

- Previously, every state had its own set of academic standards and different expectations of student performance.

Equity

- Common standards can help create more equal access to an excellent education.

Opportunity

- Students need the knowledge and skills that will prepare them for college and career in our global economy.

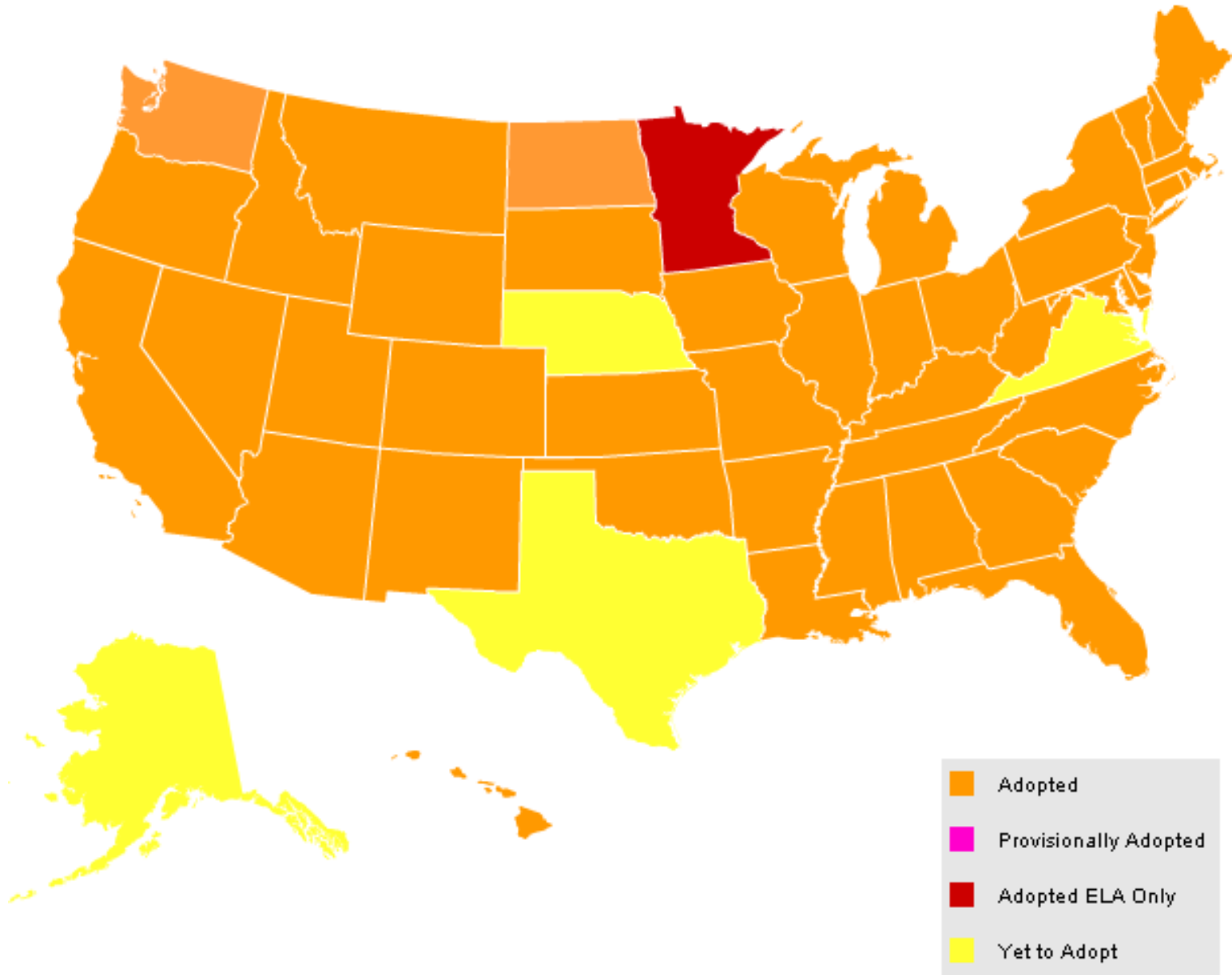
Clarity

- Previous standards were “a mile wide and an inch deep.” These new standards are clear and coherent in order to help students, parents, and teachers understand what is expected.

Economies of Scale

- Common standards create a foundation for districts and states to work collaboratively and achieve economies of scale.

Common Core State Adoption



45 states, DoDEA and D.C. have fully adopted the Common Core State Standards; MN has adopted only the ELA standards.

Intentional design limitations

The standards do NOT define:

- ⌘ How teachers should teach.
- ⌘ All that can or should be taught.
- ⌘ The nature of advanced work beyond the core.
- ⌘ The interventions needed for students well below grade level.
- ⌘ The full range of support for English learners and students with special needs.
- ⌘ Everything needed for students to be college- and career-ready.

English Language Arts (ELA) Shifts

Non-Fiction

- Building knowledge through content-rich non-fiction and informational texts in addition to literature

Evidence from the Text

- Reading and writing are grounded in evidence from the text

Complex Text & Academic Vocabulary

- Regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary (words like “synthesize” and “correspond”)

Math Shifts

Focus

- 2-4 concepts focused on deeply in each grade

Coherence

- Concepts logically connected from one grade to the next and linked to other major topics within the grade

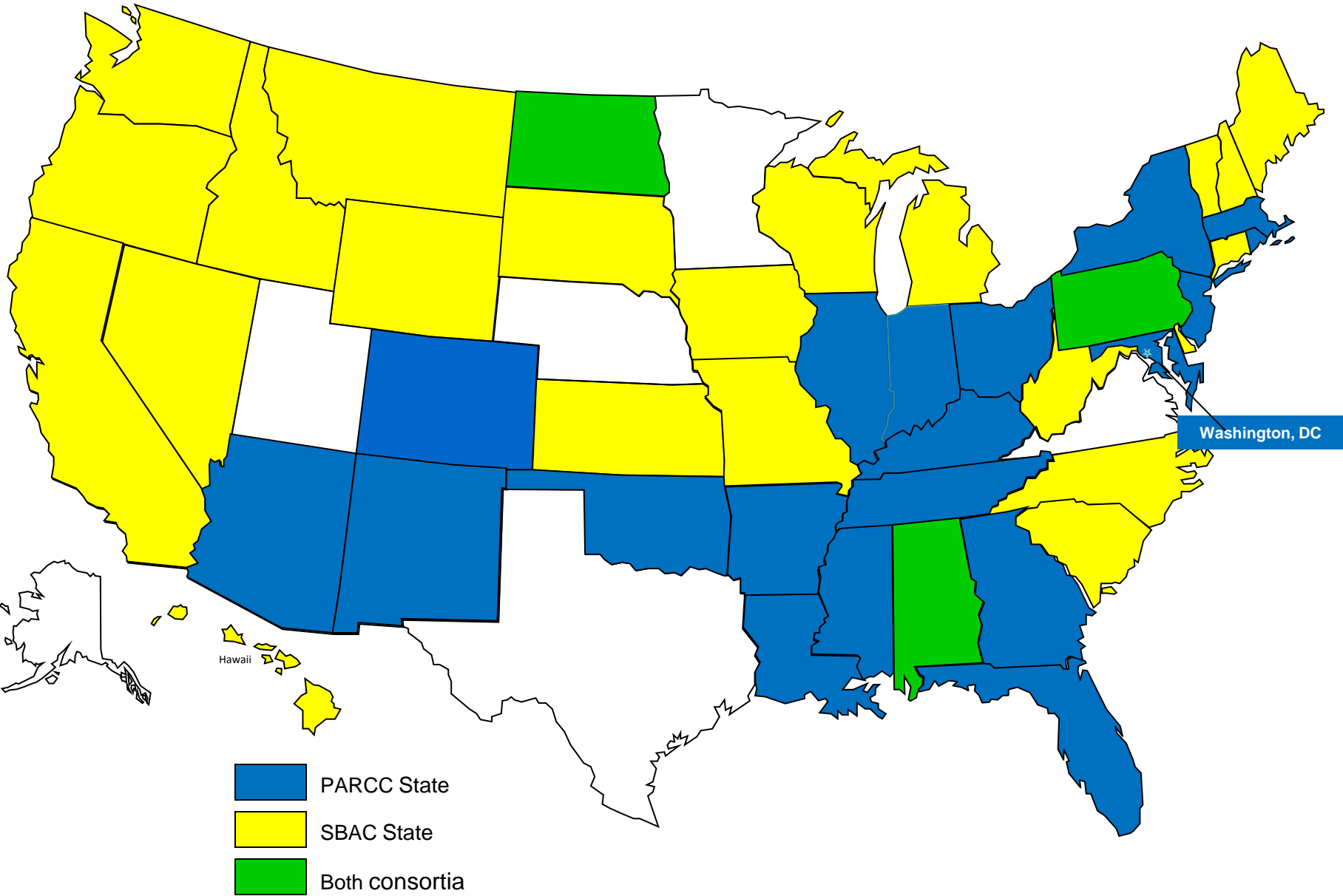
Rigor

- Fluency with arithmetic, application of knowledge to real world situations, and deep understanding of mathematical concepts

New Assessments

- ⌘ Two state-led assessment consortia
 - Partnership for Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) www.parcconline.org
 - Smarter Balanced www.smarterbalanced.org
- ⌘ Federal Race to the Top (RTTT) grant of \$350M +
- ⌘ New summative assessments used for accountability purposes in 2014-2015 school year

Assessment Consortia Membership



What will the new tests be like?

- ⌘ Computer-based
- ⌘ Beyond multiple choice
- ⌘ Measure what matters for college and career success
 - Depth of understanding and higher-order thinking skills
- ⌘ Provide precise, actionable information

**Professional
Development**

**Public
Awareness**

**Common Core
Implementation**

**Curriculum &
Instructional
Materials**

Technology



“Typical” State Implementation Timeline

2010-2011
School
Year

- States adopt standards

2012-2013
School Year

- Teacher Awareness on Common Core

2014-2015
School Year

- New Summative Assessments
- Professional development continues

2011-2012
School Year

- Administrator Awareness on Common Core

2013-2014
School
Year

- Standards Used in All Classrooms
- Professional development continues

Your state plan:

www.ccsso.org/Resources/Programs/The_Common_Core_State_Standards_Initiative.html

Implementation Occurring Now

- ⌘ Professional development for teachers, principals, district staff, superintendents
 - Key shifts in the Common Core compared to current standards
 - Deeper information on big issues, such as text complexity and focus in mathematics on critical topics for each grade level
- ⌘ Guidance to districts on selecting instructional materials and developing curricula aligned to the Common Core
- ⌘ Suggestions on what to incorporate into instruction this school year and each subsequent year until common assessments in place

Key Implementation Topics for States

- ⌘ **Instructional materials and curricula:** what you take away from what you're teaching along with what you need to add
- ⌘ **Professional development:** beyond awareness of the standards – professional learning communities, ongoing, job-embedded professional development
- ⌘ **Instruction and assessments:** depth of understanding required of students
- ⌘ **Literacy in content areas:** challenges traditional role of teachers in all disciplines and secondary school structure

National Implementation Resources

The James B. Hunt Institute and CCSSO created a series of free video vignettes that explain the Standards in depth.

www.ccsso.org



National Implementation Resources

- ⌘ National PTA – Common Core Parent Guide
 - www.pta.org/parentguides
- ⌘ Council of Great City Schools Parent Roadmaps:
<http://www.cgcs.org//site/Default.aspx?PageID=244>
- ⌘ Student Achievement Partners (Standards writers- includes lessons and publishers criteria and PD modules)
 - www.achievethecore.org
- ⌘ Math Common Core Coalition
 - www.mathccc.org
- ⌘ New York State Common Core Website
 - www.engageny.org

Questions and Discussion

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Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)

www.ccsso.org

Read the Common Core: www.corestandards.org

