

# Educator Effectiveness Academy

## Summer 2011

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### Interesting Points:

- One of eleven academies
- 6,000 educators
- 150 master teachers presenting at the academies
- Five staff members from each LEA Central Office
- Only state doing this type of “grassroots” professional development on the Common Core State Standards

# Common Core State Standards

- Common Core Standards for K-12 English/language arts and mathematics
- Initiative led by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and National Governors' Association
- Common Core State Standards adopted by the Maryland State Board of Education – June, 2010



## Key Points;

The Common Core State Standards are the foundation for the new Maryland Common Core State Curriculum.

The standards were written for K – 12 in English Language Arts and Mathematics  
Maryland has added Pre-K to its curriculum

The Common Core Standards Initiative was led by CCSSO and NGA, a states-driven initiative

The Standards were adopted by the Board in June 2010. The Curriculum Frameworks for ELA and Math were presented at the June Board Meeting for acceptance.

## What makes the Common Core State Standards unique?

- College and Career Ready Standards
- Nationally and internationally benchmarked
- Evidence-based
- Increased rigor



### Key Points:

CCR means that students will graduate from high school ready to earn credit-bearing college courses and prepared for career training programs WITHOUT need for remediation

The writers of the standards researched best practices in the United States and foreign countries as they developed the standards.

The standards are research and evidenced-based.

There are higher expectations for students – insuring that our students can be competitive in a global society.

## Common Core Curriculum – Race to the Top connection

- The Maryland State Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards prior to receiving Race to the Top grant.
- Race to the Top enables Maryland to...
  - Accelerate curriculum implementation
  - Develop robust curriculum toolkit
  - Support curriculum implementation with an instructional improvement system



### Key Points:

Maryland recognized the need for continuing reform of its education program and was committed to moving forward with that reform agenda before the RTTT grant was awarded.

# Gap Analysis

- Side by side comparison of State Curriculum and Common Core State Standards
- Identified weak, good, and excellent matches
- Informed development of curriculum frameworks
- Key “take-aways”



## Key Points:

Soon after the CCSS were adopted in June, teams of educators from across the state began working on a comparison of the State Curriculum Standards with the CCSS. The teams included classroom teachers, representatives from IHE, content supervisors, and content specialists from MSDE.

Achieve provided the Common Core Comparison Tool to facilitate the analysis.

The tool identified matches, but it included all types of matches: excellent, good, and weak.

The information gleaned from the gap analysis provided rich information for the development of the new Maryland Common Core Curriculum Frameworks in ELA and math.

In ELA, there were several key “take-aways”:

There was a renewed focus on writing, especially for the writing of argument and explanatory pieces.

Text complexity must be evaluated.

There must be an emphasis on reading for informational text

Key “take-aways” for Math:

Emphasis must be given to understanding and incorporating the Standards for Mathematical Practice into every math lesson.

The matches identified between the SC and CCSS were often not at the same grade level; this will have a significant impact at the middle school level.

Probability and Statistics were integrated throughout the high school curriculum

# Maryland Common Core State Curriculum

- **The Maryland Common Core State Curriculum is a Maryland created curriculum that includes the frameworks and the curriculum toolkit**



# Maryland Common Core State Curriculum Frameworks

- The Maryland Common Core State Curriculum Frameworks are built upon the Common Core State Standards
- The Frameworks for ELA and Math were posted on MDK12.org in June 2011
- The Frameworks were presented to the Maryland State Board of Education on June 21, 2011.



# Curriculum Frameworks

- Common Core State Standards
- Only Excellent Matches within grade
- Essential Skills and Knowledge



## Key Points:

The frameworks are the foundation of the new curriculum – NOT the entire curriculum.

CCSS are non-negotiable. We did NOT add 15% to our standards as some states did. We did add Pre-K.

We identified only excellent matches within the same grade.

Curriculum Revision teams identified what students needed to know and be able to do to master each standard. The essential skills and knowledge component is not intended as a laundry list of skills and content, but rather a guide for teachers in the development of their lessons.

# Curriculum Toolkit

One-stop shop for curriculum resources

- Robust
- Easy Access
- Multi-media
- Technology solutions



## Key Points:

In the next several years, curriculum teams will be developing the curriculum toolkit – resources for the development of instructional programs aligned to the CCSS. The Maryland Common Core State Curriculum will be composed of the toolkit and frameworks.

The toolkit will be more robust and easily accessible. Because it will include new technology solutions, there will be many multi-media resources. We are partnering with Maryland Public TV and the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education in some of these initiatives.

# Curriculum Toolkit Content

Curriculum Toolkit Development will span multiple years. There will be a variety of tools:

- Model lessons
- Model units
- Formative assessments
- Multi-media resources
- Intervention and enrichment modules
- Online courses for students and educators



## Key Points

In addition to many of the tools that are currently available to Maryland educators, we will be adding other tools.

The Universal Design for Learning will be the model for lesson design, providing all students with multiple means of accessing content, demonstrating what they know, and becoming engaged in meaningful learning.

# Maryland STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math  
(STEM)

- Implementation of Seven Recommendations of the Governor's Task Force
- Priority in Race to the Top Application
- Theme throughout Maryland's Reform Initiative



Key Points:

STEM is critical to our state.

As we continue to develop the vision for STEM education, the recommendations of the Governor's Task Force will guide that work.

STEM is a priority and integrated in our RTTT work.

# STEM

## Lessons and Units – Problem Driven Instructional Process – Inquiry Based

- Primary Disciplines:
  - Science
  - Technology
  - Engineering
  - Mathematics
- Other Disciplines:  
Any discipline can be integrated into a STEM lesson or unit



### Key Points:

STEM lessons and units will be developed through student generated questions about a problem. The skills and concepts learned are in the context of an authentic setting.

Although we typically think of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in reference to STEM, in fact, there are many problems that students will explore that include other content areas. Literacy skills will be an integral part of any STEM lesson or unit.

# Assessment

## The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)

- 25 states in this consortium—one of two consortia across the country
- Maryland is one of the Governing States



### Key Points:

Assessments will be given throughout the year. They are aligned to the CCSS.

Assessment design is on-going. However, students will be required to demonstrate what they know through writing, as well as brief answers. Students will have to read complex text – including historical and science text. Students will be required to solve a range of mathematical problems, including non-routine math problems.

# Assessment

## Important Areas of Focus:

- Text complexity
- Writing to source
- Writing products: **Argument, Explanatory, Narrative**
- Integration of Standards for Mathematical Practice with Math Content Standards
- Summative Assessments include Through-course and End-of-course assessments



# Assessment

## PARCC Timeline

- Prototype items available 2011-2012
- Limited field-testing in 2012-2013
- Full curriculum implementation in 2013-2014
- Full field-testing in 2013-2014
- Full implementation in 2014-15



### Key Points:

Full implementation is 2014-15, and so it is crucial that the Maryland Common Core State Curriculum be fully implemented by 2013-2014.

As you consider your school transition plans, be mindful of these target dates.

# The Ultimate Goal

## World-Class Students

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### Key Points:

We hope this overview has provided to you a foundation for the work you will be engaged in throughout the next three days here at the Academy as well as the work that you will begin with your school community.

## Academy Outcomes

- Develop knowledge of the Common Core State Standards and the Curriculum Frameworks for Mathematics and English Language Arts
- Develop an understanding of the relationship between Maryland's vision of STEM and the Curriculum Frameworks
- Provide feedback, modifications, and additions to the Curriculum Frameworks
- Create a one-year transition plan that will guide school staff in delivering the Academy content

