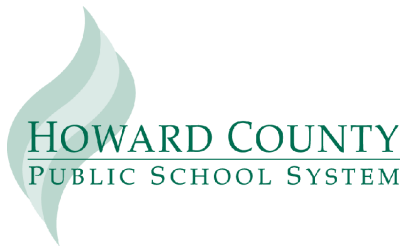


Supporting Your Child Through the Transition to Common Core Mathematics

What Parents Need to Know



What is the Common Core?

- Learning expectations in mathematics and English language arts designed to prepare students for college and career success.
- Communicate what is expected of students at each grade level, putting students, parents, teachers, and administrators on the same page, working toward shared goals.

The Common Core State Standards:

- Are aligned with college and work expectations
- Are clear, understandable, and consistent
- Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills
- Build on strengths and lessons of current state standards
- Are informed by other top-performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in a global economy and society; and
- Are evidence-based

Why New Curriculum?

- U.S. mathematics students currently rank 25th in the world
- Over 40% of U.S. graduates must pay for non-credit remedial courses in college
- There exist significant achievement gaps among student groups (race/ethnicity, socio-economic, & special services)

Benefits of Common Core Curriculum

- Higher expectations for teaching and learning
- Ensures college and career readiness for ALL students
- Preparation to compete in a global economy
- Fosters collaboration between home and school

Timeline for Transition

Phases of Transition:

- Standards for Mathematical Practices (2011-2012)
- Content Transition
 - Kindergarten: 2011-2012
 - Grade 1 & 2: 2012-2013
 - Grades 3-12 will begin phasing in standards as early as 2012-2013
- Assessments
 - Current state testing grades 3-8 & Algebra I will continue through 2013-2014
 - Field Testing of new state assessments: 2013-2014
 - Implementation of new state assessments: 2014-2015 (will replace current state assessments)

The Standards for Mathematical Practices

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

What Can You Do to Support your Child?

- Learn more about CCSS and the Standards for Mathematical Practices
- Have a discussion with your child
- Discuss CCSS implications with teachers, other parents, and school leaders
- Get involved

To Learn more....

- Common Core State Standards
<http://www.corestandards.org>
- National PTA: Parent's Guide to the Common Core
<http://www.pta.org/4446.htm>
- Maryland State Department of Education
Common Core Frameworks
<http://mdk12.org/instruction/commoncore>