Cutting *to the* Core

CURRICULUM & INTERVENTION | OCTOBER 2013 | ISSUE 1

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & LITERACY
Becky Sullivan, Director

The first draft of the new ELA/ELD Framework is complete! This new framework is the first of its kind, integrating both ELA and ELD. Look for your opportunity to give input during CDE's field review this fall. The State Board of Education will adopt the final version this spring.

We continue to focus on the CCSS, bringing you more workshop opportunities this fall. New to our CCSS ELA & Literacy series are "Three Key Shifts in ELA & Literacy," "Understanding Depth of Knowledge," and "Disciplinary Literacy." We to hope to see you in attendance!

As you visit classrooms in the next few months, keep an eye out for this CCSS key shift: building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction. Teachers should have a balance of literature and informational text in their curriculum. As you watch instruction of informational text, look for a focus on the structures and features.

MATHEMATICS
David Chun, Director

The following resources have been developed as informational tools to inform parents about the CCSS for Mathematics (CCSSM):

1. Middle School Parent Handbook – Grades 6-8
2. High School Parent Handbook – Traditional Pathway
3. High School Parent Handbook – Integrated Pathway
4. Webcast - Introduction to the CCSSM
5. Power Point - Introduction to the CCSSM
6. FAQs for the CCSSM

SCIENCE
Phil Romig, Curriculum Specialist

CA became the sixth state to adopt the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) with the unanimous approval by the State Board of Education. The Board, however, has not yet adopted a timeline for implementing them. The State Board put off a related decision: whether instruction of the new standards in middle school should continue to be taught by discipline—earth sciences in 6th grade, life sciences in 7th and physical sciences in 8th—or reconstituted in new integrated courses. Next, CA will create a framework covering grades K–12, along with curriculum and assessments. Even though the curricula and assessments are approximately two years away, science teachers at all grade levels can begin implementing key parts of the NGSS immediately. Specifically, the scientific and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and engineering components of the new standards can be implemented by infusing them into what you are currently teaching (as many of you are doing already). For more information, please see our website, or call the SCOE Science Department at 916-228-2275.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT
Jan Mayer, EdD, Curriculum Specialist

In 2013, Sacramento County's schools enrolled 40,212 English learners (EL) in kindergarten through 12th grade. The implementation of CA's new ELD Standards in tandem with the CCSS brings many opportunities for supporting ELs in learning grade-level academic content as well as becoming fully proficient in English.

The CA ELD Standards highlight the skills that ELs will need as they collaborate, interpret and produce the language necessary to engage in the CCSS. The ELD Standards are organized into three proficiency levels, and are aligned to the CCSS ELA standards by grade level.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ELA & Literacy
- CCSS: Foundational Skills (10/30/13)
- CCSS: Text Complexity (11/6/13)
- CCSS: Text Dependent Questions (11/13/13)
- CCSS: Depth of Knowledge (11/20/13)
- CCSS: Disciplinary Literacy (12/4/13)
- Instructional Rounds, Part 1 (10/15/13) Instructional Rounds, Part 2 (12/3/13)

EL
- English Language Development Standards and the Common Core State Standards (10/29/13)

Smarter Balanced
- Designing and Understanding Selected-Response and Extended Constructed Response Assessment Items (10/25/13)
- Designing Performance Tasks in ELA, Mathematics, and Content Areas (11/19/13)

Curriculum Breakfast:
1/17/14 and 4/25/14

To register:
readinglions.net/register

For all PD courses:
scoecatalog.net