**Common Core State Standards**

States currently have unique processes for developing, adopting, and implementing educational Common Core State Standards (CCSS). As a result, the content students are expected to learn can vary widely from state to state. We know that Oregon graduates will compete for jobs with students from other states and countries with more rigorous educational standards.

Common Core State Standards help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in postsecondary education and the workforce. Common standards also will help ensure that students are receiving a high quality education that is consistent, from school to school and state to state. This provides a greater opportunity to share experiences and best practices within and across states that will improve Oregon’s ability to meet the needs of students. The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) has been engaged in CCSS work since the initiative’s inception in spring 2009. ODE staff reviewed each iteration of the standards and provided feedback throughout the development process. A statewide panel of educators conducted a rigorous match/gap analysis of the CCSS in relation to Oregon’s own recently adopted math content standards. Results were presented to the State Board of Education and serve as a foundation for implementation of the mathematics standards.

Promoting a culture of high expectations for all students is a fundamental goal of the Common Core State Standards. As ODE moves forward with CCSS, it will continue to collaborate with stakeholder groups to advise and be a part of the development for students with disabilities ages 18-21, in Secondary Transition programs. This work will provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare them for college and the workforce.

In consideration of students that are considered "transition age", special educators are required to develop IEPs that support post-secondary goals and outcomes. The connection to the standards is found within the skills in math, English language arts, science, and English language acquisition that will create access points towards self-determination. This work will continue as changes occur in special education processes, assessment, and the state IEP form.

Currently, **ODE has implemented guidance for developing “Standards-based IEPs”. Information about this process can be found on the ODE webpages that relate to Common Core State Standards and Students with Disabilities. This information can be found at** [**http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=4157**](http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=4157)**.**