

# Common Core Learning Standards & Assessments

PTO Presentation

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# Tonight's Goals

- Understand what the Common Core Learning Standards are and how they fit into the bigger picture of changes in education in NYS
- Provide you with resources to investigate further

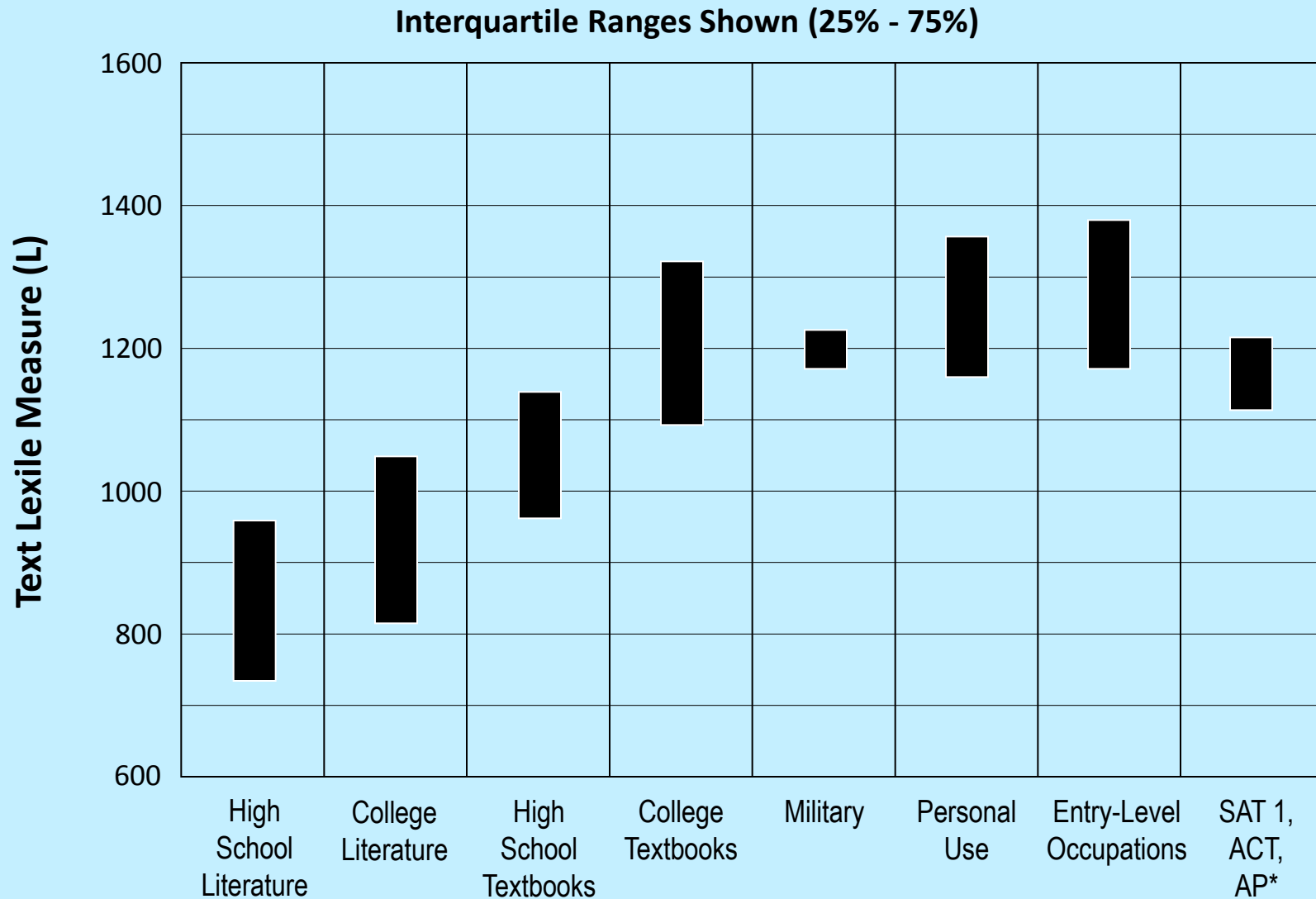
# What Are Learning Standards?

- Standards are a set of expectations for what *all* students should know and be able to do by the time they graduate from High School. They are typically broken into grade level or grade level band sets of expectations.
- NYS has had standards in the following areas since 1994: English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, Science & Technology (MST), Social Studies, Fine Arts, Health & Physical Education, Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS)

# Why did the NYS standards change to Common Core Learning Standards?

- Research shows that our students (NYS not just DCS) were not prepared to enter college, a career, or the military upon graduation from HS. This was also true across the country.
- Our world today is dynamic and ever changing and the standards that were originally developed, and then revised, were not rigorous enough to prepare our children for the future.
- Efforts led by state governors and the National Council of School Superintendent's focused on developing standards that would prepare the youth of our country for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and beyond.

# Being Deliberate About Reading Levels



From: Datametrics

# Standards Development Process

- College and career readiness standards developed in summer 2009
- Based on the college and career readiness standards, K-12 learning progressions developed
- Multiple rounds of feedback from states, teachers, researchers, higher education, and the general public
- Final Common Core State Standards released on June 2, 2010

# The Common Core State Standards are...

- Aligned with college and work expectations
- Focused and coherent
- Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards
- Internationally benchmarked so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society
- Based on evidence and research

# Common Core Learning Standards

- ◎ NYS adopted CCLS in July 2010- one of 45 states
- ◎ Standards in
  - English Language Arts
  - Literacy across All Subjects
  - Mathematics
- ◎ New Social Studies and Science Standards under development



# English Language Arts Shifts

- ⦿ Balancing of informational and literary texts with a stronger emphasis on informational text
- ⦿ 6-12 knowledge in discipline (literacy standards across content areas)
- ⦿ Staircase of complexity (more complex texts)
- ⦿ Text-based answers
- ⦿ Writing from sources
- ⦿ Academic vocabulary
- ⦿ Research Skills

# Mathematics Shifts

- Focus- less topics, more depth to build strong foundational knowledge and skills
- Fluency- emphasis on speed and accuracy of facts and calculations
- Depth- build a solid understanding of mathematical concepts
- Application- use understanding of concepts to apply mathematics to new situations
- Problem solving/reasoning

# From Standards to Curriculum

- Curriculum is the translation of the standards into the units that we teach...
- Teachers work together within a district, sometimes regionally, to determine how to take the standards and use them to guide what and how we teach
- We typically use publisher materials that are aligned with the standards to help with this process...  
Currently there are a few if any publisher materials that are truly aligned with the Common Core
- NYS for the first time, has published an ELA and Mathematics curriculum in the form of “Modules”

# Modules

- NYS has not required schools to use modules. They have made them available for us to use, particularly in the absence of other materials.
- Last school year our teachers did their best to develop curriculum materials that we believed were aligned to the new CCLS.
- This year, in continued absence of publisher materials, we are using and adapting modules in ELA and math.
- We will continue to review our resources as the publishers 'catch up' and to adapt and refine the modules to meet our needs.

# Phase in of Assessments

- ◎ **2013 3-8 ELA & Math NYS assessments** were aligned to CCLS for the first time
- ◎ **2014 HS CCLS aligned assessment phase in begins**
- ◎ **2015 PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers)**

**ON HOLD**

# HS English Transition:

- Students entering **grade 9 in 2013-2014**
  - **English Regents in grade 11** will be aligned to CCLS
- Students entering grade 9 prior to 2013-2014
  - English Regents in grade 11 will be based on 2005 Learning Standards

# HS Math Transition

- **2013-2014 Algebra I:** Students taking Algebra I for the first time will be required to take the CCLS aligned Algebra I Regents (\*Freshman)
- **2014-2015 Geometry:** Students taking Geometry for the first time (\*this year's Freshman) will take the new CCLS aligned Geometry Regents
- **2015-2016 Algebra II:** Students taking Algebra II for the first time (\*also this year's Freshman) will take the new CCLS aligned Algebra II Regents

*\*Typical sequence of students, others may be included*

## 3-8 ELA and Math CCLS Assessments- How are they different?

- Increased Rigor- more advanced and more complex
- Focus on Text- 'close reading' to answer with evidence gathered from rigorous literature & informational texts.
- Depth of Math- using math conceptual understanding and prerequisite skills to solve math problems rooted in the real world



## Commissioner comments about the 2013 CCLS aligned assessments:

- SED announced (and put in writing) “we **expect** that **fewer students** will perform at or above proficiency”... drop in scores of around 30%
- “Scores are **not be comparable** to scores from **prior years tests**”
- ..”Should **not** necessarily be **interpreted** as a **decline in student learning** **or** as a decline in **educator performance**”

# The Big Picture

- Standards: National requires States to have- NYS
  - CCLS in ELA ( including Literacy) & Math
  - State Learning Standards: Social Studies, Sciences, Technology, Fine Arts, CDOS
  - Under construction: Social Studies & Science
- Curriculum: Local
  - Translation of standards into units
  - Calendar mapping
  - Materials

# The Big Picture con't

- Instruction: Local
  - How we teach the curriculum so that the children know and are able to do what the standards ask of them
- Assessment: National & State
  - National: What grades and subjects must be tested
  - State: How to test, set proficiency levels

# Parent Resource Handouts

- *Parent's Backpack Guide to Common Core State Standards*
- *Working with the "Shifts"*
- *Frequently Asked Questions*

# Parent Resources

<http://www.engageny.org/>