

# Common Core Standards and Assessments

Parent Information Night

January 29, 2014

# Common Core: What it Is/Isn't



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Data Privacy

Testing

Curriculum

Modules

APPR

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# Data Privacy

- NYS has collected data for many years
- The Data Portal was designed to give parents access to this data. It collects student:
  - Name
  - Birthdate
  - Socioeconomic status
  - Gender
  - Ethnicity

# Testing

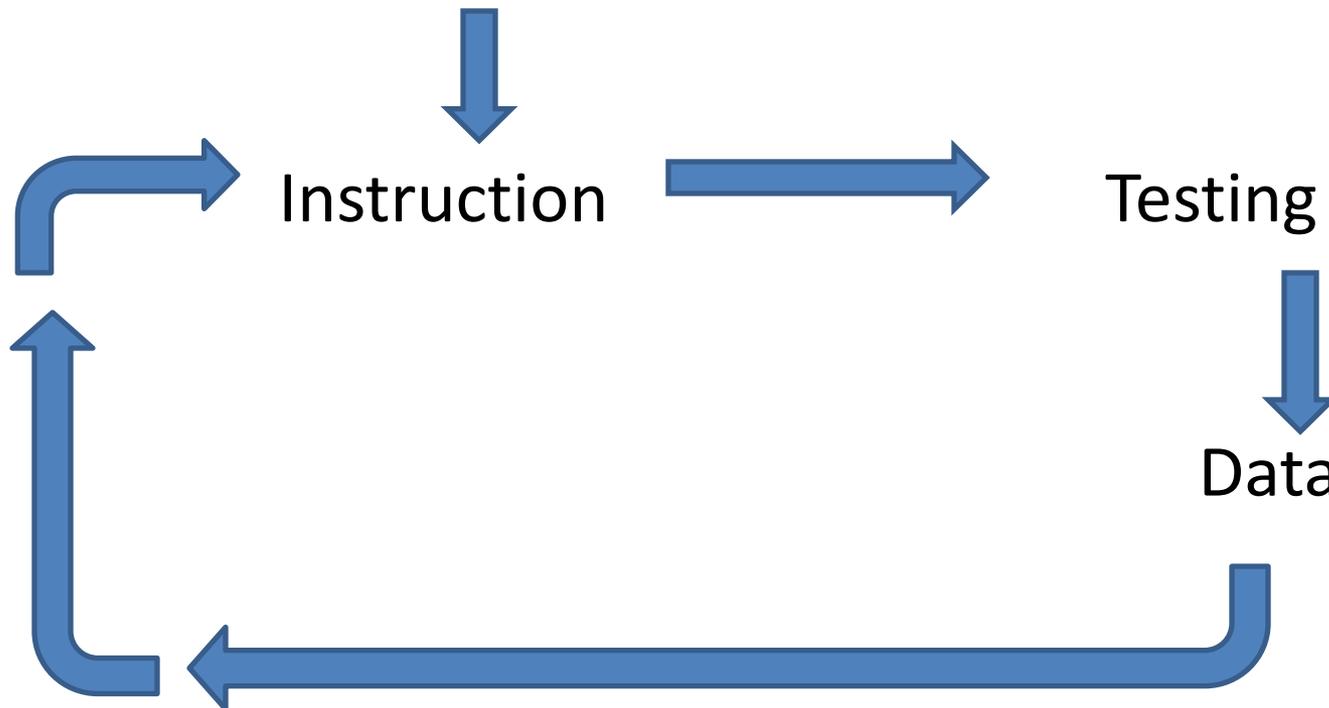
- AIMS Web – progress is monitored throughout the year in ELA and Math in the elementary school
- NYS Assessments – taken at the end of the year in grades 3-8.
  - Test length decreasing in math by 20 minutes and in ELA by 20 minutes this year.
  - Use CCLS material
- NYS Regents Exams – most taken in June each year
  - Moving to Common Core this year (Math) and next year (ELA)

# APPR

- **Annual Professional Performance Review**
  - Teacher evaluation
  - 80% on observations and other evidence
  - 20% on how well students do on tests
    - In Newfield, this is the:
      - AIMS Web for elementary school students
      - NYS Assessments for students in grades 3-8
      - NYS Regents exams for high school students
      - Teacher developed tests where no NYS Assessment, Regents, or AIMS web exists

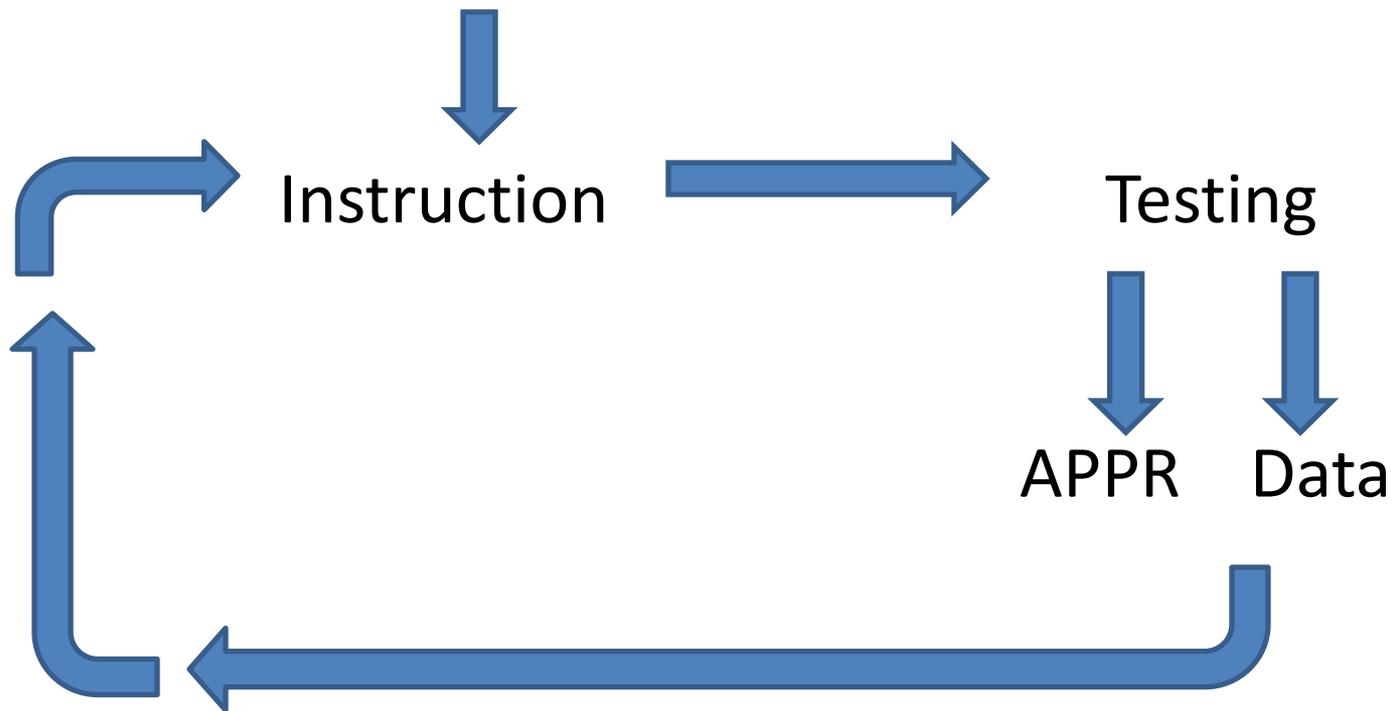
# Relationship

## New York State Learning Standards

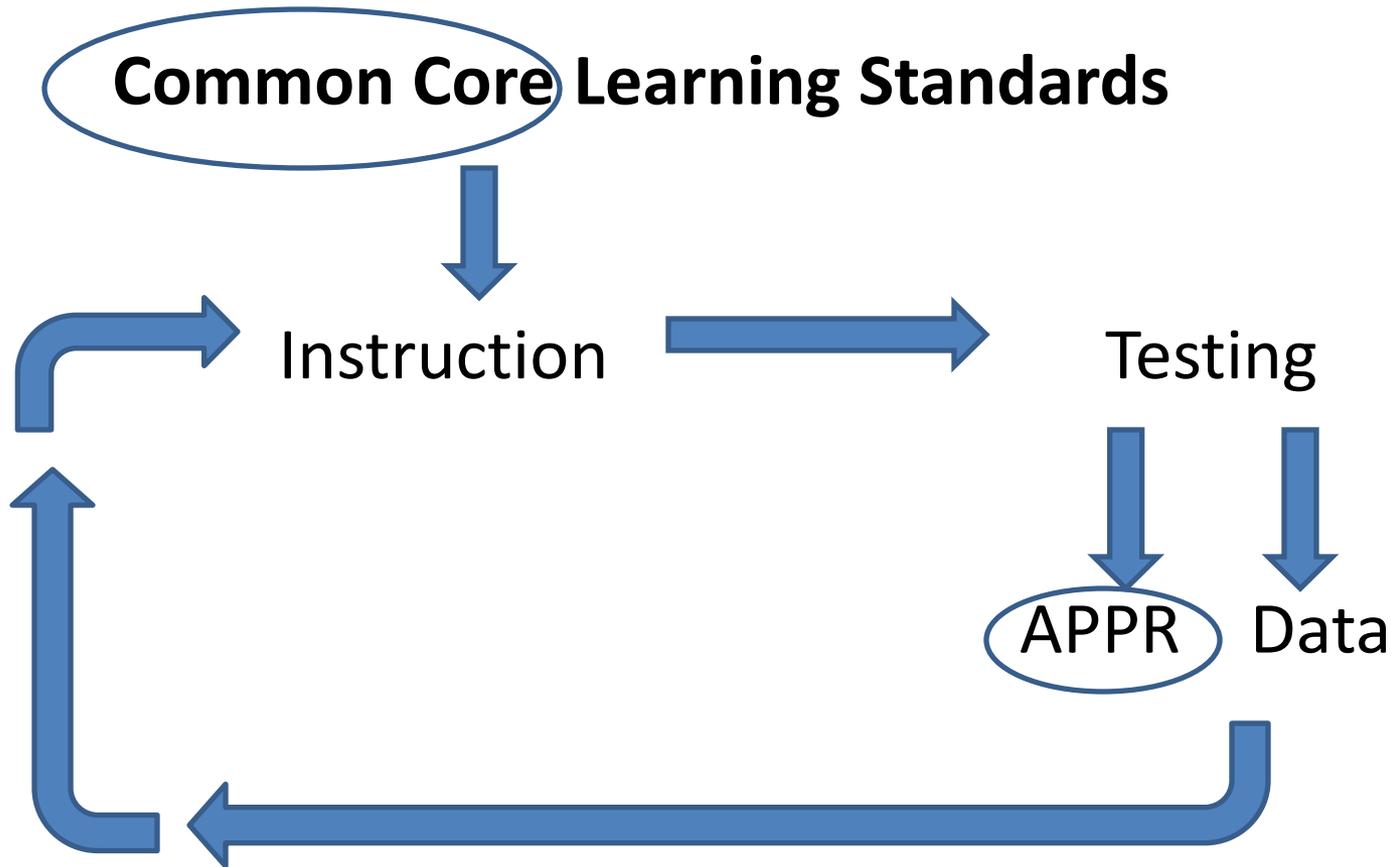


# Relationship

## Common Core Learning Standards



# Relationship



# So What IS the Common Core?

- *Common Core Learning Standards are standards; they are what students should know, not how teachers should teach.*
- *Common Core Learning Standards were developed by teachers and education experts from across the country.*
- *Common Core Learning Standards were “designed with the end in mind” to prepare students for college and/or careers.*
- *Common Core Learning Standards provide more opportunities for students to be challenged intellectually and to learn how to think and solve problems.*

# Changes in Educational Focus

- 1950-1960s
  - Teach students to think and be creative problem solvers (Sputnik challenge – race to be the first on the moon). Emphasis and attention given to the highest achievers. US achieves great things in the areas of math, science, technology.
- 1960-1970s
  - Activism; principals of inclusion and equality of opportunity; needs of the disadvantaged take precedent over the national need to be competitive worldwide. Liberal curriculum and philosophy that students need freedom and time to pursue their own interests rather than structure.
- 1970-1980s
  - Liberal curriculum and philosophy that students need freedom and time to pursue their own interests rather than have a structured environment. Only 14% of public felt that a student's failure was his/her own fault.
- 1980-1990s
  - Beginning use of technology in schools. Space program suffers (U.S. Challenger explodes – U.S.S. R. launches Mir Space Station). Movement to establish standards. "A Nation At Risk" is published which documents declining achievement scores and graduation rates, low expectations for students, and little focus on academics.
- 1990-2000s
  - No need to memorize or think – information is easily accessible on the internet. Federal government re-focuses on education. President Bush proposes national standards. President Clinton urges increased parental involvement and more professional development for teachers. Schools with low performance identified and given assistance. New York State Learning Standards implemented.
- Early 2000s
  - No Child Left Behind Act requires reading, math and science proficiency and sanctions for all schools not making adequate yearly progress toward that goal.
- Present
  - Common Core Learning Standards are implemented. Teach students to think and be creative problem solvers. High achievement is rewarded.

# So What IS the Common Core?

- *"The CCLS ... help ensure that students are receiving a high-quality education consistently, from school to school and state to state, so that all students - no matter where they live or how often they move to a new school - are prepared for success in post-secondary education, the workforce and the military, if they choose to serve."*

*- Michael Hall, retired Major General in Elmira*

# How will students meet these tougher standards?

Students learn best when...

- Motivated by great teachers
  - Delivering engaging instruction
    - Guided by rigorous curriculum

# Shifts (Changes) in English Curriculum

Shift 1: Balancing Informational & Literary Texts	Passages will be authentic, and will be balanced between informational and literary texts; will require literacy in Science, Social Studies, and technical subjects
Shift 2: Knowledge in the Disciplines	Assessments will contain knowledge-based questions about the informational text; students will not need outside knowledge to respond.
Shift 3: Staircase of Complexity	Passage selection will be based on text complexity that is appropriate to grade level per Common Core.
Shift 4: Text-based Answers	Questions will require students to marshal evidence from the text, including paired passages.
Shift 5: Writing from Sources	
Shift 6: Academic Vocabulary	Students will be tested directly on the meaning of pivotal, common terms, the definition of which can be discerned from the text. Academic vocabulary will also be tested indirectly through general comprehension of the text.

# Example

Read the following lines from the passage: *“People laughed at him, and even his friends told him that he never could be a speaker, so he went home greatly cast down.”*

## **OLD** CC Grade 6 ELA ITEM

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In this sentence, “cast down” means

- A - Upbeat
- B - Encouraged
- C - Embarrassed
- D - Discouraged

## **NEW** CC Grade 6 ELA ITEM

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How does this sentence help to structure the passage?

A – It sets up a contrast between what Demosthenes could accomplish individually and what he could do with the help of others.

B – It shows the main reason Demosthenes sought the help of other more established public speakers

C – It divides the periods of Demosthenes life between when he was unsuccessful and when he reached his goals

D - It reveals Demosthenes key weakness, public speaking, and how it would hold him back.

# Shifts (Changes) in Math Curriculum

Shift 1: Focus	Priority standards will be the focus of assessments. Other standards will be deemphasized.
Shift 2: Coherence	Assessments will reflect the progression of content and concepts as depicted in the standards across grade levels.
Shift 3: Fluency	It will be assumed that students possess the required fluencies as articulated through grade 8; as such, calculators are not permitted in grades 3, 4, and 5 and are only permitted for certain sections in grades 6, 7, and 8.
Shift 4: Deep Understanding	Each standard will be assessed from multiple perspectives, while not veering from the primary target of measurement for the standard.
Shift 5: Application	Students will be expected to know grade-level mathematical content with fluency and to know which mathematical concepts to employ to solve real-world mathematics problems.
Shift 6: Dual Intensity	

# Example

## Old 2008 Grade 6 Item: Fractions

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Q: A 20-gallon container is filled with 6 gallons of gasoline. What fraction of the container is filled with gasoline?

- A.  $20/6$
- B.  $3/10$
- C.  $6/10$
- D.  $3/5$

## New 2013 Grade 5 Item: Fractions

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Q: Half of a school auditorium is needed to seat 3 equal-sized fifth grade classes.

- Part A: Make a visual fraction model to represent the whole auditorium when each class is seated in separate sections.
- Part B: What fraction of the auditorium will one of the fifth grade classes need of the whole auditorium?

# Teacher Testimonies

## Q & A time