

April 2014 Monthly Resource:



Dear Common Core Implementation Team Member,

Greetings! I hope your school year is going well.

This month, our “mailing” includes critical information for PARCC preparation, a Common Core fact sheet, a short video by teachers explaining the Common Core, resources that support Common Core instruction, an updated NEA CCSS toolkit, resources from the AFT, an update regarding NJCore.org and a list of free professional development opportunities.

I. PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations Manual

This document provides guidance for districts and decision-making teams to ensure that PARCC assessments produce valid results for all students. The manual includes an overview of the PARCC Assessment, information regarding the accessibility system and accessibility features for all students, the accommodations for students with disabilities, and accommodations for English language learners. It also provides a five step decision-making process for selecting, administering and evaluating the use of accommodations for PARCC assessments. This is essential information for administrators, IEP, I&RS and 504 team members, teachers (general educators, special educators and ELL/ESL educators), related service providers, parents and students. <http://www.parcconline.org/parcc-assessment-policies>

II. New Jersey’s Common Core Fact Sheet

This fact sheet addresses the following points:

- What are the Common Core State Standards?
- New Jersey Implementation of the Common Core
- Facts about the Common Core
- Broad Support for Raising the Bar
- Additional resources

<http://www.nj.gov/education/sca/team/FactSheet.pdf>

III. “Learn More. Go Further” (Video)

Developed by the Foundation for Excellence Education, this Youtube video features teachers explaining facts about the Common Core.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KyHW-XbbcOU>

IV. **National Poetry Month**

The Poets.org website provides educators with Common Core-aligned poetry lessons for elementary and secondary grades with activities for addressing reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

Grades 3-6 – “The Owl” by Arthur Sze:

<http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/23875>

Grades 7-12 – “Manatee/Humanity” by Anne Waldman:

<http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/23864>

V. **NEA CCSS Toolkit:**

<http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/Common-Core-State-Standards-Toolkit.pdf>

*This updated for 2014 toolkit includes two NEW sections: **Advocacy** and **Tools & Resources** (pp 52 – 54). The Tools section includes information regarding discussion groups that focus on the Common Core and family and community engagement as part of the *Great Public Schools Network online community*.*

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

VI. **The American Federation of Teachers (AFT)**

<http://www.aft.org/issues/standards/nationalstandards/classroomresources.cfm>

The AFT has worked with the NEA and Student Achievement Partners to provide many Common Core resources, including Share My Lesson:

<http://www.sharemylesson.com/teaching-resources/>

VII. **NJ Educator Resource Exchange (njcore.org)**

Is Your District Part of the Growing NJ Educator Resource Exchange Community?

Visit <http://njcore.org/>

The NJ Educator Resource Exchange has continued to grow with almost 2,000 registered educators, over 36,000 unique visitors and almost 300,000 page views since its launch. Thanks to increasing contributions from educators, materials include over 2,100 instructional, assessment, and professional development resources that are aligned to the CCSS and NJCCCS. With each new contribution, the NJ Educator Resource Exchange becomes more robust and useful. Be part of this statewide collaborative resource effort today by encouraging your staff to register on the site and contribute materials.

- Flyers can be obtained by clicking on: [ERE - Flyer 1](#) [ERE - Flyer 2](#)
- Educators can register here: <http://njcore.org/user/register>

- Check out the tutorial videos: <http://njcore.org/help-videos>
- Contact info@njcore.org with any questions.

VIII. Professional Development

Below are some examples of free professional development opportunities that will be offered by the NJ DOE in the coming months. Click on <http://education.state.nj.us/events/all/> to view the complete list.

Math PD

- **K-5 Modeling & 6-12 Modeling**

Modeling is one of the eight Mathematical Practices and is a strong focus of the standards at all grade levels. This session will demonstrate how to effectively use mathematical models to support student understanding of abstract concepts by tying them to more concrete models. Participants will examine a wide range of topics from grades K-5 and learn instructional strategies focused on a variety of model types.

The intended audience is K-5 math teachers, supervisors and coaches.

April 17, 2014 – Trenton - [K-5 Modeling - Central](#)

April 21, 2014 – Branchburg - [K-5 Modeling - North](#)

April 22, 2014 – Galloway - [K-5 Modeling - South](#)

May 14, 2014 – Trenton - [6-12 Modeling - Central](#)

May 19, 2014 – Branchburg - [6-12 Modeling - North](#)

May 20, 2014 – Galloway - [6-12 Modeling - South](#)

ELA & Math PD

- **Assessment Literacy**

This professional development session will focus on the role of the school leader in supporting the use of a balanced, data-driven assessment system that provides teachers and administrators with feedback to raise academic achievement. The session will address how to use teacher-created assessments that are fully aligned to the Common Core to create, organize and implement a benchmark assessment system that will identify students and teachers who require additional support. Presenters will include content specialists who will address topics specific to mathematics and English language arts.

April 10, 2014 – Branchburg – [Assessment Literacy - Central](#)

ELA PD

- **What is dyslexia?**

This two-hour workshop will help educators understand and recognize dyslexia and learn with strategies that can be immediately implemented in the classroom. The training will cover screenings, accommodations, interventions and use of technology. Participants will learn how to:

- Recognize signs of dyslexia in the classroom
- Identify the common myths and causes of dyslexia.
- Implement appropriate interventions and accommodations.

This workshop can be used to fulfill the New Jersey professional development requirement for reading disabilities, including dyslexia, for the 2014-2015 academic year. The workshop will be presented by Gordon F. Sherman, Ph.D. and Deardra Rosenberg, M.A. The curriculum is based on the research of Dr. Sherman and the International Dyslexia Association.

This workshop presented in collaboration with Learning Ally. Founded in 1948, Learning Ally has helped millions of K-12, college and graduate students, veterans and lifelong learners – all of whom read and learn differently due to blindness, visual impairment, dyslexia or other learning disabilities.

The afternoon session will be provided by a Literacy Specialist from the NJDOE's Office of Literacy who will facilitate a workshop on developing text dependent questions for kindergarten through third grade students. Lunch will be on your own. Please plan for a full day 8:30-2:30.

May 2, 2014 – LRC South, Mullica Hill -

<http://education.state.nj.us/events/details.php?recid=20677>

May 8, 2014 – LRC North, East Orange –

<http://education.state.nj.us/events/details.php?recid=20679>

June 3, 2014 – LRC Central, Trenton – workshop is already at capacity

Thank you for all you are doing on behalf of our students, our faculty, and our schools.

Tracey Severns, Ed.D.
Chief Academic Officer



Do you know someone who isn't receiving these?

Forward this to a colleague and encourage them to sign-up!
<https://app.mobilestorm.com/cp/manageforms/preview.php?formID=14290>



Missed any CCIT mailings?

Find previous mailings at:
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/team/ccit.pdf>



How else can we help you?

Send us an e-mail at njcore@doe.state.nj.us



Have you visited our site lately?

<http://njcore.org/>

**Subscribe to the NJCore.org Monthly Newsletters
 to learn about the newest Common Core Resources:**

<http://njcore.us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=b7fa3d0c8aa24b8bfc71b1ad0&id=c445879b7f>

**NJCore.org
 What's Trending?**

	Month (March)	Since Launch
Number of Registered Educators	73	1,828
Number of Visitors		

	6,135	40,211
Top 5 Districts	#1	Trenton
	#2	Passaic
	#3	Bayonne
	#4	Paterson
	#5	Mount Laurel

NJCore.org
5 New Features

1. Standards map for NJ CCCS Social Studies.
2. Added dozens of CCSS Math aligned student and teacher starter packs and module resources courtesy of Newark Public Schools.
3. Ability to report on questionable resources.
4. Ability to add suggested improvements when rating resources.
5. Profanity filter added to resource submission process.