



# Kansas Common Core Standards and Assessments

Siebert, August, 2011

# Why they were developed:

- **Disparity** among the states in terms of what is expected for students to achieve before they graduate from high school
- Students must be prepared for the **global competition** that exists today (today's jobs require many different types of skills – 21<sup>st</sup> century skills-and the standards states have in place don't always do that)

# The Differences

- Fewer, clearer, and **higher levels of standards/expectations**
- Alignment with **college and work expectations** (*the standards development process began with looking at college and career readiness standards in 2009*)
- Include **rigorous content & application of knowledge** through higher-order thinking skills
- **Internationally benchmarked** (all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society)
- Based on evidence/research

# The New CCSS do NOT:

- Don't define how our teachers should teach!
- Don't define all that can or should be taught!
- Don't define the nature of advanced work beyond the core
- Don't define interventions needed for students below grade level
- Everything needed to be college and career ready

**College and Career Ready!!!!!!**



# Cognitive Strategies: ELA

- Demonstrate Independence
- Build Strong Content Knowledge
- Respond to Varying Demands of Audience, Task, Purpose, and Discipline
- Comprehend as Well as Critique
- Value Evidence
- Use Technology and Digital Media Strategically and Capably
- Understand Other Perspectives and Cultures

# Cognitive Strategies: MATH

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

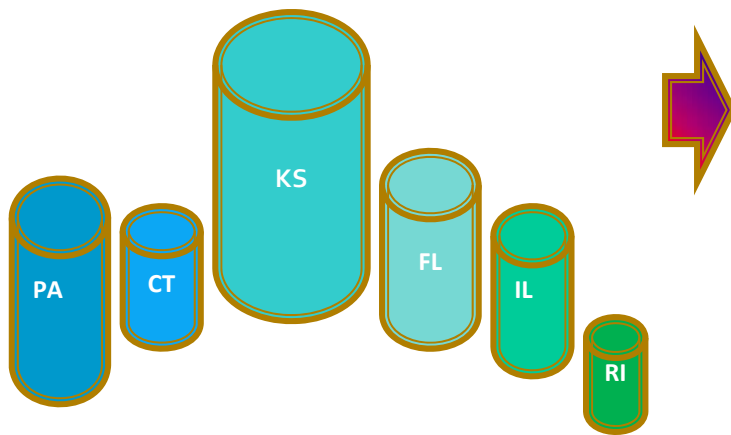
# The “Heavy Lifting” ...

- KS part of the **Smart Balance Consortium** – working to develop new assessments to measure these standards (2014-15)
- KSDE working on “bridging documents” showing how current KS standards match to the new CC
- KSDE Professional development



# The Uniqueness of This Moment: Inflection Point

- Thomas Friedman in “The World is Flat” points out the importance of “inflection points” in history.
- The **Common Core State Standards** (CCSS) can become an “inflection point” for American public education - establishing a common foundation for building excellence and equity for all students.



*State silos of cost, effort, expertise*

9-Aug-11



*Shared platform for collaboration, cost and effort efficiencies, sharing of best practices*

# Benefits include

- Fewer, clearer, next-generation standards
- Systems of high quality, aligned summative and formative assessments, with rapid results to teachers (adaptive tests)
- Online digital libraries for sharing of instructional resources, professional development modules, student support materials, identification of effective practices, etc.
- Leveraging of human and financial capital across states

# Kansas Common Core Standards Transition Timeline

Where do we go from here?



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# State of Kansas: Soft Landing

- Gradual transition with all aspects of adoption.
- Introduction of new or aligned items on the summative assessments.
- Pilot SBAC assessment components.
- Partner with consortium states, national and regional organizations and state professional organizations.
- Introduction of instructional resources.



# What Teachers Will Need:

- **Classroom teachers** are the most important group in elevating these Common Core Standards from mere words to tangible improvements in learning.
- **Professional development**
  - teachers will need to understand these new standards (“unpack them”)
  - understand how these are different than what they’ve been working with (and where gaps exist)
  - **plan lessons and deliver instruction that is aligned with them.**

# Soft Landing for USD 320



## ■ 2010-2011

- K-12 Math Teachers Study new CCSS for math
- Focus: 8 mathematical practices
- Began looking at how new CCSS relate to what we are currently doing in grade levels
- Professional Development June: Kansas CCSS Academy (representatives of all grade levels) for CCSS (math) and CCSS (English Language Arts)

# Soft Landing for USD 320: Our Plan

## **2011-12**

- Perform strategic examinations of the new standards (teachers & administrators)
- Make sure teachers & leaders in 320 know how to explain the rationale for new standards & understand the benefits
- Compare new standards to new CCS
- Begin to communicate with parents & community about new CCS
- Connect with other districts to share ideas

# Soft Landing for USD 320: Our Plan

**2011-12**

- Identify resources that are coming online and establish a means for evaluating them for quality
- Develop milestones for each CC area and work backwards from the CCS Assessment (2014-15)
- Begin conversations about content that is neither currently assessed nor included in new CCS
- Kindergarten (this year) use ONLY new CCS!

# Hard Landing

- **Complete adoption 2014-2015.**
- **Partner** with consortium states, national and regional organizations and state professional organizations.
- Implement **new assessments and accountability in 2015.**

# Building Bridges



**2014-15**

**NOW**

# Questions