



San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District

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Dear Families,

Currently California public schools are teaching educational standards that were adopted by the California State Board of Education in the early 1990's. These standards describe what students in California should know and be able to do in each subject in each grade.

Since 2010, forty-five states have adopted the same standards for English and mathematics. These standards are called the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Having the same standards helps all students get a quality education, even if they change schools or move to a different state. Teachers, parents, and education experts designed these standards to prepare students for success in college and career.

The Common Core also added strength to the existing California standards by including additional standards for vocabulary and new standards for collaborative discussions. Literacy standards that focus on reading and writing instruction during history/social studies, science, and technology also were included. In mathematics, standards were added to demonstrate a stronger emphasis on number sense and algebraic thinking.

Implementation in California's schools will occur in stages over the next few years with students first being assessed in 2014-15. I have attached a "Q & A" and will provide you with additional information throughout the year. If you would like to read more about Common Core, you can visit the California Department of Education's webpage: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/>.

With students, parents and teachers all on the same page and working together for shared goals, we can ensure that students make progress each year and graduate from school prepared to succeed in college and in a modern workforce.

As always, thank you for supporting our schools and for participating in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Julie Haff
Superintendent