



## Common Core State Standards – at a Glance

### **Adoption of the Common Core State Standards**

The St. Johns County School District (SJCS), along with all other school districts in the state of Florida and 45 states across the nation, including the District of Columbia and four territories and the Department of Defense has adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCSS were voluntarily adopted by the Florida State Board of Education in 2010. We are continuing to implement the CCSS for English/Language Arts and Mathematics, and Literacy for grades K-12 this year.

### **Relevance to students, teachers and parents**

It is important for all stakeholders to understand what this will mean for our students, teachers, parents and the community at large. The implementation of these rigorous standards will positively impact instruction and student learning. Our already highly ranked educational system will take the next step forward in working to ensure our students graduate with the knowledge, skills and values that will enable them to transition into the workplace or college.

While the implementation of these new standards will cause some noticeable changes in our schools; these changes may have less impact in the SJCS due to our outstanding teachers and students, effective school leadership, committed parents and a supportive community.

Principals, teachers, school-based personnel and district staff will be working together to help each child master these standards. We also remain committed to helping parents and families as they work to support their children to not only graduate, but to set attainable goals for life beyond high school.

### **Timeline for implementation**

We are now in transition. For 2013-2014, CCSS is fully implemented in K – 2. In Grades 3 – 12, the curriculum will be blended (CCSS and supplemental NGSSS aligned to FCAT 2.0 and End-of-Course State assessments). All CCSS will be fully implemented and assessed at all grade levels in 2014-2015. Florida’s timeline for implementation of the CCSS for mathematics, English/language arts, and literacy is available at Florida’s CCSS Implementation Timeline: <http://www.fldoe.org/parcc/pdf/ImplementationTimeline.pdf> (2nd slide).

### **Standards were created with tremendous public input and provide flexibility**

The CCSS were created by teachers, parents and education experts from across the country. Universities and business leaders were asked for specific skills that their students or employees need to be successful. Public feedback was actively solicited from across Florida. Local school and district leaders have the authority to find the best way to individualize learning and meet their students’ needs.

### **Where Can You Learn More?**

Parents and community members are encouraged to read the CCSS Overview found on our website at <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/depts/cs/> and participate in opportunities to learn more about these standards.

You can view the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards at <http://floridastandards.org> and the Common Core State Standards at [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org).



The National PTA organization has developed *The Parents' Guide to Student Success* in response to the transition to CCSS. There is a guide for each grade level, K-8, and high school. The guide includes:

- Key items that children should be learning in English language arts and mathematics in each grade when the CCSS are fully implemented:
- Activities that parents can do at home to support their children's learning
- Methods of helping parents build stronger relationships with their child's teacher
- Tips for planning college and career (high school only)

You can find *The Parents' Guide to Student Success* at <http://www.pta.org/4446.htm>.