

## Why Common Core?

The Common Core State Standards are a state led effort coordinated by the National Governors' Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers. The Common Core State Standards for California provide students the following:

- **PREPARATION:** The standards are college and career ready.
- **COMPETITION:** The standards are internationally benchmarked, ensuring our students are globally competitive.
- **EQUITY:** Expectations are consistent for all and not dependent on a student's zip code.
- **CLARITY:** The standards are focused, coherent, and clear.
- **COLLABORATION:** The standards create a foundation to work collaboratively across states and districts.



## PLESD Technology Focus

PLESD has made the implementation of technology a major focus. As the strategic planning process unfolded, it became clear that to implement the California Common Core Standards and to ensure students were college and career ready **student use of technology** had to become a high priority. Since January 2014 over 400 laptop computers (Chromebooks) have been made available for student use in classrooms. An additional 200 devices will hopefully be purchased by the end of the 2014-15 school year. This will bring PLESD to a ratio of 1 computer for every 2 students.

## Other Resources For Parents and Guardians

**California Department of Education CCSS:**  
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/>

**Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium:**  
<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>

**Smarter Balanced Assessment Practice Test:**  
<http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/>

**National PTA: Parents' Guide to Student Success**  
<http://pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>



<http://www.cde.ca.gov>

## 2014-15 Guide to the California Common Core State Standards In Plumas Lake Elementary School District



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## Common Core State Standards

The California Common Core Standards are a set of high-quality academic standards in mathematics and English language arts/literacy (ELA). These learning goals outline what a student should know and be able to do at the end of each grade. The standards were created to ensure that all students graduate from high school with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in college, career, and life, regardless of where they live or who they are.

The actual skills and concepts that are addressed by these standards are very similar to the California State Standards that were implemented in 1997. The new California Common Core Standards use these skills and concepts as the foundation for students' learning how to problem solve, critically think, analyze and communicate in a way that will ensure all students to be college and career ready.

## Plumas Lake Elementary School District Focus 2014-15

Implementing the Common Core State Standards is a key part of Plumas Lake Elementary School District's Strategic Plan. We are focused on developing creative and critical thinkers who communicate effectively, value diversity and are ready to excel in a global society.

PLESD will focus our staff development on implementing the California Common Core Standards in English Language Arts and Math. Writing will be a focus across all subject areas.

## CCSS Overview K-8 English Language Arts

These standards focus on preparing students to be college and career ready in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Language. This means as students become developmentally ready they:

1. Demonstrate independence.
2. Build strong content knowledge.
3. Respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
4. Comprehend as well as critique.
5. Value evidence.
6. Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
7. Come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

### English Language Arts Areas of Focus

#### **Reading**

- ❖ Phonics, decoding and reading skills
- ❖ Increasing text complexity and reading comprehension skills each year.
- ❖ Reading and understanding fiction and informational texts.

#### **Writing**

- ❖ Focuses on four different types of writing.
- ❖ Infuses use of technology in creation, refinement, and collaboration in writing.

#### **Speaking and Listening**

- ❖ Focuses on speaking and listening in a range of settings.
- ❖ Emphasizes effective communication practices.
- ❖ Requires interpretation and analysis of oral, visual or multimodal presentations.

#### **Language**

- ❖ Conventions for writing and speaking
- ❖ Requires vocabulary and correct grammar to be addressed in context of reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

## CCSS Overview K-8 Mathematics

The two types of Math Standards are the Math Practices which describe the skills and processes that all students need to be successful in math and the Content standards which describe the math concepts students need to learn each year.

### Mathematical Practice

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 an express regularity in repeated reasoning.

### Mathematical Content

Grades	Expectations of Fluency and Conceptual Understanding
K-2	Addition and subtraction concepts, skills and problem solving; measurement using whole number quantities.
3-5	Multiplication and division of whole numbers and fractions-concepts, skills and problem solving.
6	Ratios and proportional reasoning; early expressions and equations.
7	Ratios and proportional reasoning; arithmetic of rational numbers.
8	Linear algebra.

**Grade Level specific Common Core State Standards may be found on our website:**

[www.PLESD.org](http://www.PLESD.org)