



Get the latest information about the new state standards and testing by downloading the district app. Search for "Federal Way Public Schools" in the Apple App Store or in Google Play.

Ésta es información importante para los padres y los tutores. Se puede hallar traducciones en la página de Internet: www.fwps.org/teaching/common-core/

Это важная информация для родителей и опекунов. Вы можете прочитать информацию на русском языке, если откроете страницу интернета www.fwps.org/teaching/common-core/

학부모와 보호자에게 중요한 정보입니다. 다음의 웹페이지에 번역된 내용이 있습니다: www.fwps.org/teaching/common-core/



Federal Way Public Schools

YOUR STUDENT AND The New State Standards

The State of Washington adopted new standards for math and English language arts (reading, writing, speaking and listening). The standards are shared by 46 states and are often referred to as Common Core State Standards or CCSS. Washington state also has its own standards for other subjects such as science and social studies.

STANDARDS PROVIDE CONSISTENT GOALS AND A ROADMAP TO SUCCESS

CCSS sets goals for the knowledge and skills a student needs to be ready for college and work.

- Standards are the goals and expectations for students' learning at each grade level.
- Meeting the standard in one grade or course level prepares the student for what they will learn in the next grade or course, such as Algebra I to Algebra II.
- The standards are the same for K-12 students at each grade level in all the participating states.

STANDARDS AREN'T NEW, ESPECIALLY IN FEDERAL WAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

There have been state standards for what students should know for two decades.

- Teachers in our district began using the new English language arts and math standards during the 2013-2014 school year.
- The new standards mean that learning goals are the same for our students as they are for all other students at the same grade level in our state, and in other states that are participating. This helps students who relocate frequently, including children of military families, keep up with their counterparts.

READ MORE ABOUT THE STANDARDS AT
www.corestandards.org

FIND RESOURCES ON
www.fwps.org/teaching/common-core

AND
<http://yourchildsprogress.com>

THE NEW STANDARDS SET A HIGHER BAR

These standards are challenging but achievable. They will help our students remain competitive with those from other countries.

- The English language arts standards require students to spend more time analyzing nonfiction, but understanding short stories, novels and drama is still important. They also expect students to make clear, well-supported arguments.
- In math, students spend more time understanding how numbers represent quantities (known as "number sense"). They also will develop and defend multiple solutions to problems that reflect real life.

TEACHERS STILL DECIDE HOW AND WHAT TO TEACH

The standards are not a curriculum and they don't tell teachers how to teach, or even what to teach.

- Teachers across the nation helped state education experts draft the new standards.
- Teachers create lesson plans and decide how they teach what students need to know.
- Federal Way teachers have received ongoing training and coaching in the new teaching strategies that are recommended for the new standards.
- The district has purchased transition resources for teachers to use that are specially designed for the new standards. Teachers may supplement those resources with other materials that fit the needs of their students.

STUDENTS WILL BE PREPARED FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

- Students learn problem-solving and critical thinking skills that apply to real life, instead of random facts.
- All students prepare for college and career success, which makes them more employable whether they choose to go to college or not.
- Graduating students will have the education necessary to choose the path they wish to take.