

Zaragoza-Diaz & Associates

Martha Zaragoza-Diaz

MEMORANDUM

To: Chi State Members

From: Martha Zaragoza Diaz, Legislative Analyst

Subject: Common Core State Standards Update

Date: September 24, 2014

Cc: Hazel Powell, Chair of

Hello everyone!! I trust everyone is doing well. Now that the Legislature is out of session and not scheduled to begin its new 2 year 2015-16 Legislative session, I will have ample opportunity to provide frequent legislative updates. Please feel free to contact me at madiaz@earthlink.net should you have questions on any of the information given in this update.

1. California Higher Education Leaders Express Support for CCSS Implementation

Leaders of the University of California system, the California State University system, the California Community Colleges, and the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities outlined their endorsement of the Common Core State Standards in a letter forwarded to members of the State Board of Education (SBE). They expressed their support for the continuing collaboration between K-12 and higher education. SBE's response to the letter is available on the [SBE News Release Web page](#).

2. Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District/CTA Teacher Cohort Lesson Study

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District and the California Teachers Association (CTA)'s Teacher Leadership Cohort provided time, opportunity, and resources for their eighth grade math teachers to work collaboratively in their first year of transition to CCSS through cross-school lesson studies.

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The teachers involved now describe this as the best professional development to support their transition - and the district plans to continue the work across grade levels. Read about their journey and find resources to start your own lesson study here: <http://commoncorecohort.wordpress.com/>

3. CCSS Flyer for Parents Updated

The [Common Core State Standards \(CCSS\) Resources for Parents and Guardians flyer](#) (DOC) has been updated to include additional online resources for parents and is now available. You can find this document and more on the [Students/Parents tab of the California Department of Education \(CDE\) CCSS Web page](#).

4. CCSS Communications Toolkit

Available to the public is [“Explaining Common Core to Californians: A Communications Toolkit.”](#) The development of this resource was a collaborative effort involving the CDE, SBE, Californians Dedicated to Education, California County Superintendents Educational Services Association, California State PTA[®], California School Boards Association, California Teachers Association, California Federation of Teachers AFT/AFL-CIO, Association of California School Administrators, the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, and the nonprofit organization FrameWorks Institute. The resource is a collection of research, recommendations, and sample communications designed to help educators increase their own and the public’s understanding of the kinds of instruction, testing, and support needed to fulfill the potential of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The intent of this communications toolkit on the CCSS is to continue to build and maintain public support of the CCSS.

Stay tuned for further updates.

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