Kansas Common Core Standards Fact Sheet 2011–2012

General Information

- State-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)
- Developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts
- Provide teachers and parents with a common understanding of what students are to learn.
- Consistency in standards provides appropriate benchmarks for all students regardless of where they live
- Standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers to graduate from high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs
- The standards:
  - Are aligned with college and work expectations
  - Are clear, understandable and consistent
  - Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high order skills
  - Are informed by other top performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society
  - Are evidence-based

Key Points in English Language Arts and Literacy:

- An integrated literacy model weaving together reading, writing, speaking and listening, language, research, media, and technology across all disciplines and content areas.
- Reading:
  - "Staircase" of increasing complexity in what student must be able to read
  - Progressive development of reading comprehension
  - Classic and contemporary literary as well as challenging information texts
  - No reading lists
- Writing:
  - Focus on the ability to write logical arguments
  - Research is emphasized throughout the standards
  - Annotated samples of student writing accompany the standards
- Speaking and Listening:
  - Require that students gain, evaluate, and present increasingly complex information, ideas, and evidence
  - Focus in academic discussion
- Language:
  - Grow vocabulary through a mix of conversations, direct instruction, and reading
  - Prepare students for real life experience at college and in 21st century careers
  - Vocabulary and conventions treated in their own strand because their use extends across reading, writing, speaking and listening
- Research, Media, and Technology:
  - Skills related to research, media, and technology use are integrated throughout the standards

Key Points in Mathematics:

- Solid foundation in whole numbers, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions and decimals
- Build the foundation to successfully apply more demanding math concepts and procedures and move into application
- In Kindergarten, the standards follow successful international models and recommendations from the National Research Council's Early Math Panel report
- K-5 standards provide detailed guidance on how to navigate their way through topics, and maintain a continuous progression from grade to grade
- Procedural skills and conceptual understanding is stressed
- Hands on learning in geometry, algebra and probability and statistics
- Middle school standards are robust
- High school standards call on students to practice applying mathematical ways of thinking to real world issues and challenges
- High school standards emphasize modeling, the use of mathematics and statistics to analyze empirical situations, understand them better and improve decisions.

Standards and Supporting Materials

- **Link to the KSDE Common Core web page:**
  http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4605
  http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4754

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