



## Kansas College and Career Ready Standards and Assessment Fact Sheet



### Our Academic Standards & Student Success

From kindergarteners to seniors in high school, preparing all students for success is our highest priority. We know that the expectations and standards we set for our children play a critical role in how far they go and how successful they are.

Our state has adopted the Common Core State Standards, and we are in the process of implementing these new academic goals in mathematics and English language arts. Our new standards raise the bar to ensure our students are ready for college, career training, and the workplace. This essentially means that any student graduating from high school is capable of successfully completing first-year college courses.

#### Our new academic standards are...

- **Standards for success.** Our new standards in math and English language arts work to ensure our students are ready for college, career training, and the workplace.
- **Consistent and shared.** More than 45 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Schools have adopted the new common standards.
- **Providing opportunities for meaningful information and feedback.** In the [2014-2015] school year, new assessments will measure the standards and allow teachers and parents to help students succeed.

Now more than ever, the global economy demands innovative thinking, a collaborative spirit, and high expectations. Our new standards move beyond memorizing facts to challenge our students to develop a deeper understanding of subject matter, learn how to think critically, and apply what they are learning to the real world. Rather than racing to cover a curriculum that is a mile wide and an inch deep, teachers will be able to significantly narrow and deepen their lessons so students master critical skills.

Kansas College and Career Ready Standards in Math and English Language Arts are the result of extensive research on what skills and knowledge students need to succeed. Educators in our state collaborated with experts and teachers from across the country to develop a set of high and consistent standards.

The state and individual districts are working hard to ensure that our teachers and principals are fully supported with dynamic tools and resources that will prepare them with the information they need to help all students achieve the new standards. Educators and district leaders are working together to develop curricula, materials, and lessons plans tailored to the unique needs of their students, which will bring our new standards to life.

In the 2014-2015 school year, we will be rolling out new assessments that will measure how well students are progressing toward the standards and will provide meaningful feedback to teachers and principals to help more students succeed. Our new standards and assessments are a critical part of the state's education plan to help students excel—regardless of their zip code—and be fully prepared for life beyond our doors.