

# Bristol Public Schools

## Parent Guide to The Common Core of State Standards

### What are the Common Core State Standards?

The Common Core State Standards are a single set of clear and consistent educational standards that outline what skills students should be learning at each grade level in Math and English/ language arts.

### What Can Parents Do to Help

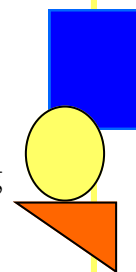
- Read a combination of fiction and non-fiction aloud or with your child. Look for subjects that interest your child.
- Select more difficult passages over time.
- Read more informational texts including newspapers, magazines, science and social studies books.
- Talk with your child and have him or her explain things.
- Encourage writing at home.
- Help your children know/ memorize basic math facts.
- Discuss and “do” real life math with your children.
- Look for “word problems” in real life.
- Encourage a good work ethic.
- Let your children see you read and “do” math.
- Discuss with your children how they are doing in school and what they are learning.
- Talk about tests with your child and be positive and encouraging.
- Talk with your child’s teacher(s) about their performance in school.
- Talk with your children about the importance of graduating from high school ready for college and career success.

### Why do we need new standards?

- Prepares students with the knowledge and the skills they need to succeed in college and work;
- Provides educators, parents and students with clear, focused standards or expectations for what children should know and be able to do when they change grade level or graduate high school;
- Sets consistent expectations;
- Includes both knowledge and the application of subject area skills;
- Builds upon strengths and lessons of current state standards and standards of top-performing nations; and
- They focus upon real-world applications.

### What’s New for Mathematics?

- ◆ Focus: Learn more about fewer key topics
- ◆ Coherence: Build skills within and across grades
- ◆ Rigor: Develop speed and accuracy in solving equations and word problems
- ◆ Really know it, really do it
- ◆ Use it in the real world
- ◆ Think fast and solve problems



### WHAT’S NEW FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS?



- ◆ Students read as much non-fiction (newspaper) as fiction (Dr. Seuss)
- ◆ Learn about the world by reading
- ◆ Read more challenging material more carefully
- ◆ Discuss reading using facts/proof
- ◆ Write non-fiction using facts/proof

#### FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Here is a link for Roadmaps for the Common Core for each grade K-8 in English and Mathematics  
<http://www.cgcs.org/domain/104>