

Dear Parents:

Over the next few years you will notice some changes to instruction and testing in our school that will directly impact your child. It is essential that you know about these changes and what resources are available to help you support your child.

In July of 2010, the Florida Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), which are a national set of learning expectations for college and career success that were developed by teachers, parents, school administrators, and education experts. These newly adopted standards provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn in K-12 math and language arts. While there are many similarities between the existing Florida state standards and the CCSS, you might notice changes in what content is emphasized and the grade in which the content is taught. For example, there is an increased emphasis on informational text in elementary school in the new standards.

The purpose of adopting the CCSS is not simply to align with other states, but rather to raise the bar in all grades to ensure that our students are receiving a relevant and rigorous education. The adoption of the CCSS means that your child will be better prepared to meet the demands of college and/or the work place in the 21st century. Today's global economy means that our students need to possess academic standards by the completion of twelfth grade to ensure their success in college and/or workforce. For additional information please go to www.corestandards.org. In addition, the National PTA has organized resources to help parents support their child. Information can be found at www.pta.org/common_core_state_standards.asp. If you have additional questions as to how this might impact your child's education, please feel free to contact us.

Respectfully,

The Floresta Curriculum Coaches

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