Teacher Survey on Common Core Standards

Governor’s Council on Common Core Review
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About the Teacher Survey on CCS

Survey to gather information on Arkansas teachers’ perceptions of the Common Core Standards.

• Stratified, random sample of 60 Arkansas districts (small/medium/large and higher/lower performing)

• Opened February 26, 2015

• Invitations sent to 2,795 math and literacy teachers (grades 3-high school)

• 967 teachers responded (34.6% response rate) as of April 21, 2015
“The Common Core Standards are ____________ than the previous standards.”
“If I had the choice, I would ___________ the Common Core Standards.”

- Eliminate: 39%
- Keep: 61%
“Overall, the Common Core Standards are ___________ than the previous standards in preparing students academically.”

- Less Helpful: 38%
- More Helpful: 62%
About the survey...

• Online
• Anonymous
• Link sent directly to teachers
• 40 questions / 5 minutes
• Could enter to win a $100 gift card
• IRB approved
Results: Teacher Survey on CCS

Part 1: CCS Impact on Student Learning

Part 2: CCS Impact on Teacher’s Attitudes

Part 3: CCS Implementation
Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements

I believe that the Common Core Standards will lead to improved student learning for the majority of students I teach.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

The Common Core Standards will help students be better prepared for college.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

The Common Core Standards will help students be better prepared to compete in the workforce.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

The previous Arkansas state standards were better than the Common Core Standards.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

The Common Core Standards encourage students to think more critically compared to the previous standards.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
CCS: Impact on Student Learning

- **Encourages students to think more critically:**
  - 3% Strongly Disagree
  - 18% Disagree
  - 79% Agree
  - 4% Strongly Agree

- **Will lead to improved student learning:**
  - 6% Strongly Disagree
  - 26% Disagree
  - 69% Agree
  - 18% Strongly Agree

- **Will help students be better prepared for college:**
  - 5% Strongly Disagree
  - 24% Disagree
  - 71% Agree
  - 8% Strongly Agree

- **Will help students be better prepared to compete in the workforce:**
  - 8% Strongly Disagree
  - 29% Disagree
  - 63% Agree
  - 17% Strongly Agree
decreased the amount of time students spend on literature.  

62% disagree

decreased students' understanding of key math concepts. 

64% disagree

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15% Strongly Disagree  28% Disagree  47% Agree  11% Strongly Agree

12% Strongly Disagree  24% Disagree  46% Agree  18% Strongly Agree
“Overall, my students will be ________ after the introduction of the Common Core Standards than before.”

- Better off: 46%
- The same: 28%
- Worse off: 26%
CCS: Impact on Student Learning

- More critical thinking
- Improved student learning
- Better prepared academically
- Better prepared for College and for Workforce
- Not decreasing time on Literature or key math concepts
Results: Teacher Survey on CCS

Part 1: CCS Impact on Student Learning

Part 2: CCS Impact on Teacher’s Attitudes

Part 3: CCS Implementation
Implementing the Common Core Standards in the classroom has made teaching more stressful than earlier years.

Strongly agree    Agree    Disagree    Strongly disagree

I like teaching more now than before the Common Core Standards were introduced.

Strongly agree    Agree    Disagree    Strongly disagree

The Common Core Standards limit my flexibility to teach what my students need.

Strongly agree    Agree    Disagree    Strongly disagree

The work I've done to implement the Common Core Standards has made me a better teacher.

Strongly agree    Agree    Disagree    Strongly disagree

Under the Common Core Standards, I feel that I have more freedom to develop my own curriculum than before.

Strongly agree    Agree    Disagree    Strongly disagree
CCS: Impact on Teacher’s Attitudes

- 74% agree has made teaching more stressful
- 63% agree has made me a better teacher
CCS: Impact on Teacher’s Attitudes

I like teaching more now: 35% agree

limits my flexibility to teach what my students need: 29% agree

I have more freedom to develop my own curriculum: 37% agree
“Overall, the Common Core Standards are ____________ than the previous standards in describing what needs to be taught in my subject area.”

[Pie chart showing 62% of respondents think the standards are less clear, and 38% think they are more clear.]
“Overall, I am ________ with the Common Core Standards.”

66% agree
How prepared do you feel to teach your subject according to the Common Core Standards?

- Completely prepared: 41%
- Somewhat prepared: 51%
- Not prepared at all: 8%
“The previous Arkansas state standards were better than the Common Core Standards.”
CCS: Impact on Teacher’s Attitudes

- More stressed
- Limits flexibility
- Less clear

★ Feel they are better teachers because of the work
★ Feel prepared to teach CCS
★ Are satisfied with CCS
Part 1: CCS Impact on Student Learning

Part 2: CCS Impact on Teacher’s Attitudes

Part 3: CCS Implementation
CCS: Implementation

• All teachers had read CCS for their grade level/content area (99%)

• Almost all teachers had participated in Professional Development for CCS (95%)

• Most teachers had additional support for CCS implementation beyond Professional Development (64%)
Almost all teachers felt that teacher collaboration was beneficial to students (96%).

Almost all teachers reported that teacher collaboration had stayed the same (46%) or increased (48%) because of CCS.

73% of teachers are concerned about CCS not benefitting certain students: students working below grade level, special education students, and limited English proficient students.
“The CCS were implemented well at my school.”

72% agree
“I don’t like the testing involved with implementing CCS.”

87% agree
Added new question:
“If I were in charge of assessment I would__________.”

- Give no assessment: 24%
- Return to Arkansas Benchmark and End of Course exams: 23%
- Develop a new state assessment for students: 20%
- Continue PARCC: 11%
- Purchase another assessment: 22%

Note: N=364
Summary

• Teachers feel CCS are good for students

• Teachers have mixed feelings about how CCS have impacted their work

• Most teachers would keep the CCS given the choice

• Teachers do not like the assessment associated with CCS

• Teachers are mixed on alternate assessment ideas