

NJDOE News

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DOE Launches New Web Site for Core Curriculum Content Standards

Acting Commissioner Bret Schundler today announced that the state Department of Education has launched a new Web site -- <http://njcccs.org> -- to assist with the implementation of the newly revised Core Curriculum Content Standards (CCCS).

Tools on the interactive site will assist districts with curriculum development and mapping, instruction, assessment and professional development.

"I am hopeful that educators will find the new Web site a reflection of the department's commitment to modeling the use of 21st century tools that support and enhance teaching and professional growth," said Acting Commissioner Schundler. "The resources have the potential to transform learning and positively effect student achievement. I encourage everyone in the education community to utilize the Web site."

The interactive Web site provides valuable information for educators and education stakeholders about the 2009 revised preschool through grade 12 content standards for: visual and performing arts; comprehensive health and physical education; science; social studies; world languages; technology; and 21st century life and careers.

Draft standards for mathematics and language arts literacy created by the Common Core Standards Project -- an initiative of the National Governors Association, the Council for Chief State School Officers and other organizations -- are available at <http://www.corestandards.org/>. Pending adoption by the State Board of Education, resources to support the two standards will be developed and posted on DOE's new Web site.

The tools available to educators on DOE's new Web site include:

- A search engine that provides by multiple means (e.g., grade level, content area, strand, keyword) access to the standards and indicators.
- Document management tools that enable users to view, print or download on demand the standards and a host of accompanying support materials. Support materials include classroom application documents (CADs) and unit plan models.
- An interactive professional development platform that offers the use of Web 2.0 tools to support ongoing professional dialogue. Site enhancement plans include enabling teachers to post lessons, activities and resources.

"Knowing I will have a resource with which my teachers will be able to access such helpful things like sample units of study is amazing," said Dr. Scott Taylor, supervisor of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology in the Little Silver School District. "I love the standards search engine. This is something mostly offered in software packages districts have to pay for. For many, this could be a cost savings."

Acting Commissioner Schundler also encouraged educators to attend no-cost professional development sessions that focus on how to use the DOE site and the wealth of materials to support instruction embedded in each content area. Additional information about the sessions can be accessed at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/21cnjs/phase2/pd/>.