

## Common Core State Standards

Also over the course of the last two years and under Governor Chris Christie's leadership, public school district staff members throughout the state of New Jersey have begun to change instructional practices to reflect the more rigorous nature of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics. To date, these are the two content areas or subjects that the Common Core State Standards have been developed for. Expecting students to read at a higher level at a younger age drives much of the change from the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for Language Arts Literacy to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. For mathematics, the primary difference between the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for Mathematics and the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics is to have students develop a greater or deeper understanding of fewer concepts and skills.

Our Plumsted Township School District curricula, what is taught and assessed, is in the process of being aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Guiding much of this process are the model curriculum units and related assessments that the New Jersey Department of Education has created. This will continue to be our approach for the next 3-5 years as the New Jersey Department of Education releases additional units and assessments for other content areas or subjects such as science and social studies.

To learn more about the Common Core State Standards, accessing this website link will be helpful:

<http://www.corestandards.org/>