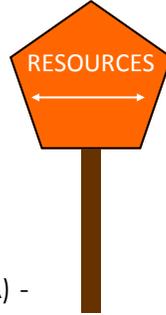


General Parent Resources

- ◇ Common Core State Standards – www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc
- ◇ Common Core Video – www.commoncoreworks.org/page/378
- ◇ K-8 California's Common Core Standards Parent Handbook – www.smmusd.org/edservices/commoncore/pdf/ccsparenthandbook.pdf
- ◇ Parent Roadmaps to Common Core Standards (Council of Great City Schools') - <http://www.cgcs.org/Page/328>
- ◇ Parents' Guides to Student Success (National PTA) - <http://www.pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583&navItemNumber=3363>



Common Core Grade Level Resources

- ◇ A Look At Kindergarten Through Grade Six In California Public Schools – www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/cf/grlevelcurriculum.asp
- ◇ Learn Zillion - High Quality Lessons For Review By Students All Aligned To CCSS – www.learnzillion.com

Common Core Assessment

- ◇ Smarter Balanced Practice Tests – www.smarterbalanced.org/pilot-test/
- ◇ Smarter Balanced *Fact vs Fiction* - <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/smarterbalresources.asp>

Parent/Student Home Resources

- ◇ Family Math Activities – http://www.orecity.k12.or.us/staff/curriculum_resources/mathematics/family_math_activities
- ◇ Everyday Mathematics - <http://everydaymath.uchicago.eduparents/>
- ◇ Reading Resources- <http://www2.ed.gov/parents/read/resources/edpicks.html>



Eighth Grade

CALIFORNIA STATE STANDARDS FOR CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS



PARENT ROADMAP

Designed to prepare all students to graduate from high school ready for post secondary education and careers

Offered by:

Lassen County Office of Education

Patricia A. Gunderson

Lassen County Superintendent of Schools
www.lcoe.org

Special acknowledgement to Tehama County Department of Education for brochure content

(Adapted with permission from the *National PTA*)



This Parent Roadmap Includes:

- An introduction to Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
- An overview of what your child will be learning in English language arts/literacy and mathematics.
- Tips for talking to your child's teacher about his or her academic progress.
- Ideas and activities to help your child extend learning at home.
- Additional resources.

What are the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)?

California has joined a national research-based movement to adopt common standards and assessments for English language arts/literacy and mathematics. Common standards allow for collaboration among states on best practices and professional development. Common learning goals provide a clear vision of what educators, students and parents in all states should aim for. These learning goals help ensure that students meet college and work expectations, are prepared to succeed in a global economy and society, and are provided with rigorous standards. The CCSS include standards for English language arts/literacy and mathematics for each grade level or subject course for K-12. In English language arts/literacy, CCSS are organized by the College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards. These broad standards along with the grade specific ELA standards (reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language) define the skills and understandings students must demonstrate to achieve literacy in all areas. In mathematics, content standards are organized by grade level or subject course (K-12), and include Standards for the Mathematical Practices. These behaviors and practices deepen students understanding of mathematics and enhance their problem solving abilities.



Early Childhood Education Program:

LCOEs Early Childhood Education Department is focused on preparing our students for success in school. We provide quality programs for children 0-5.



- Child and Family Resources provides subsidized care for children 0-12 in family child care settings. Participants must meet income guidelines.

Local Child Care Planning Council plans for child care by assessing the community needs. Its members include community representatives as well as child care consumers.

RAINBOW Program support and resources for children with special needs 0-3 in family child care settings.

- State Preschool enrolls 3-5 year olds from income eligible families. Our State Preschools are located on elementary campuses throughout the county. We accept 3 year olds (if age 3 by October 2nd), as space allows.
- California Preschool Instructional Network provides professional development for early childhood educators.



SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area)

The Lassen County SELPA, a consortium of the 14 school districts in Lassen County, provides leadership, support, and technical assistance to teachers and families in Lassen County. These programs and services are identified through the IEP process and are specially designed to promote student achievement in the Least Restrictive Environment. Services provided include:

- Leadership of countywide special education staff development to accelerate achievement for all students and eliminate the achievement gap
- Maintenance of a lending library for materials, curriculum, and assistive technology for county schools to support special education students
- Leadership surrounding state and federal mandates regarding special education
- Assistance for all districts in anticipating and responding to current and future challenges and trends in special education
- Collaboration with parents, businesses, and community partners to increase their participation in schools and build public confidence and trust in public education
- Maximization of resources to improve the quality, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness of school districts and the County Office

Lassen County Office of Education (LCOE) is dedicated to supporting schools and districts as they work to improve student achievement and meet the needs of all learners. Please visit our website at www.lcoe.org for a complete listing of department offerings. The following programs offer resources that may be especially valuable for parents.

Educational Support Services:

LCOE Educational Support Services provides administrators and teachers quality assistance in building knowledge and skills around the district and school culture, goal setting and implementation, and instructional practices. The goal of ESS is to build the capacity of educators to improve student achievement for all. Our services include:



- Professional development workshops
- Administrator and teacher learning support
- English Language Arts and Mathematics support
- Community educational events
- Educational resources for loan

After School Program:

The Lassen County After School Education and Safety Program (ASES) is a program which provides a safe, healthy and enriching environment for K-8 school children to participate in:



- Homework Assistance/Tutoring
- Academic Enrichment/Recreation
- Social Skills Development
- Prevention Activities
- Youth Development
- Character Education
- High Education
- Career Exploration

Student Support Services

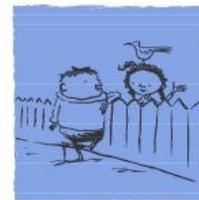
Student Support Services provide training, technical assistance, and direct services to schools, parents, students, and community agencies to support physical and emotional health and safety for all Lassen County students. Staff provide leadership and expertise in the areas of school safety and crisis planning, bullying and violence prevention, substance use and teen pregnancy prevention, mental health, mentoring, nutrition, foster and homeless youth services, and truancy/drop-out prevention.

Why Are Academic Standards Important?

The Common Core State Standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter which state they live in, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. They help set clear, consistent, and high expectations for students, parents, and teachers, to build your child's knowledge and skills, and help set high goals for all students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. Standards help parents and teachers know when students need extra assistance or when they need to be challenged. Standards also will help students develop critical thinking skills that prepare them for the world beyond high school.



Today's students are moving beyond the basics and embracing the 4C's - "super skills" for the 21st century!



Communication
Sharing thoughts, questions, ideas, and solutions



Collaboration
Working together to reach a goal – putting talent, expertise, and smarts to work



Critical Thinking
Looking at problems in a new way, linking learning across subjects & disciplines



Creativity
Trying new approaches to get things done equals innovation & invention

College & Career Preparation

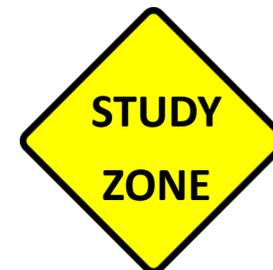
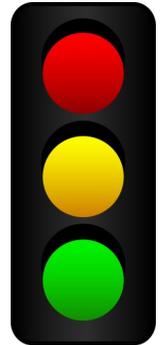
The first column represents overarching cross-disciplinary literacy expectations also known as the ELA Anchor Standards. The second column, Mathematical Practice Standards, explains the important math processes and proficiencies students should develop to prepare for success.

ELA Anchor Standards	Mathematical Practice Standards
<p>1. Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Ideas and Details • Craft and Structure • Integration of Knowledge and Ideas • Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity <p>2. Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text Types and Purposes • Production of Distribution of Writing • Research to Build and Present Knowledge • Range of Writing <p>3. Speaking and Listening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehension and Collaboration • Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas <p>4. Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conventions of Standard English • Knowledge of Language • Vocabulary Acquisition and Use 	<p>1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.</p> <p>2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.</p> <p>3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.</p> <p>4. Model with mathematics.</p> <p>5. Use appropriate tools strategically.</p> <p>6. Attend to precision.</p> <p>7. Look for and make use of structure.</p> <p>8. Look for and express regularity in and repeated reasoning.</p>



How Can Parents Help at Home?

- ◇ Ask your child to do an Internet search to determine how mathematics is used in specific careers. This could lead to a good discussion and allowing students to begin thinking about their future aspirations.
- ◇ Have your child use magazines, clip art, and other pictures to find and describe examples of similar and congruent figures.
- ◇ Using different objects or containers (such as a can of soup or a shoebox), ask your child to estimate surface area and volume and check the answer together.
- ◇ Encourage your child to stick with it whenever a problem seems difficult. This will help your child see that everyone can learn math.
- ◇ Prompt your child to face challenges positively and to see mathematics as a subject that is important. Avoid statements like "I wasn't good at math." or "math is too hard."
- ◇ Praise your child when he or she makes an effort and share in the excitement when he or she solves a problem or understands something for the first time.



Tips for Talking With Teachers!

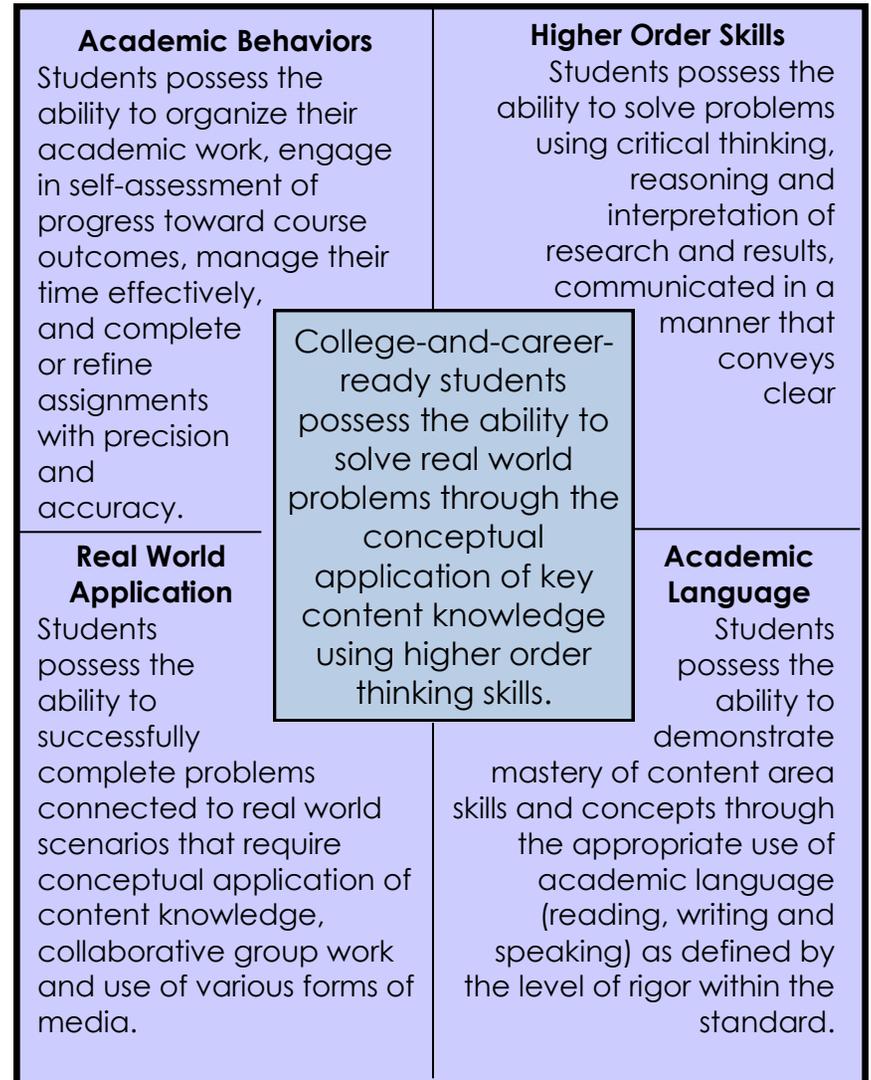


Don't be afraid to reach out to your child's teacher. You are still an important part of your child's education. Ask to see samples of your child's work and discuss his/her progress with the teacher using questions like:

- ◇ Is my child at the level where he/she should be at this point in the school year?
- ◇ How is math progress measured? Can we look at some of his/her work together?
- ◇ In which area of math is my child excelling?
- ◇ What do you think is giving my child the most trouble? How can I help? Do you have any additional activities that would support my child?
- ◇ Can you show me how you solved this problem in class?
- ◇ Which math topics are coming up? What can I do to help get them ready for upcoming work?
- ◇ What is your preferred method of communication (email, phone, notes home)?
- ◇ How can I keep track of his/her completed assignments? Do you communicate grades online?

Future Graduate Lane

Four Attributes of College & Career Ready Students



Highlights of

English Language Arts

Eighth grade students will read major works of fiction and nonfiction from all over the world and from different time periods. He/she will continue to learn how to understand what they read and evaluate an author's assumptions and claims. They will also conduct research that will require the analysis of resources and accurate interpretation of literary and informational text. In writing, they will build writing around strong central ideas or points of view, supporting them with evidence, smooth transitions, and different sentence structures.



Samples of the Work Your Student Will Be Doing

- ◇ Analyzing how the form or structure of a play or poem contributes to its meaning.
- ◇ Analyzing how particular elements of a story or play interact.
- ◇ Determining how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text.
- ◇ Using word roots to determine the meaning of words.
- ◇ Conducting short research projects, drawing on several sources and identifying related questions for further research and investigation.
- ◇ Writing for a range of purposes and audiences.
- ◇ Engaging in a range of classroom discussions on topics and texts, expressing ideas clearly and building on the ideas of others.



Math Progressions



Here is an example of how students will develop mathematical skills across grade levels as they continue to challenge themselves throughout each year.

Seventh Grade

Re-write an expression in different forms to show how quantities are related.

Use variables to represent quantities and construct simple equations and inequalities to solve problems.

Eighth Grade

Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.

Use linear equations to graph proportional relationship, interpreting the unit rate as the slope of the graph.

High School

Solve quadratic equations (equations that include the square of a variable, such as $5x^2 - 3x + 3 = 0$).

Use the structure of an expression to identify ways to rewrite it. For example: $x^4 - y^4 = (x^2)^2 - (y^2)^2$

Sample of What Students Will Be Asked To Do



Students interpret and compare linear relationships represented in different ways, making the connection between equations, tables of values, and graphs.

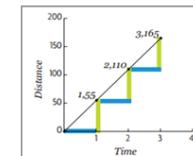
Problem: Two cars are traveling from point A to point B. Their speeds are represented on a graph and in a table. Which car is traveling faster?

Solution: Even though car #1 starts out ahead by 4 miles, students identify the rate of change—or slope—of the equations presented in the table and graph as equal (55 miles per hour), meaning that both cars are travelling at the same speed.

Car # 1
 $y = 55x + 4$

Time (x)	Distance (y)
1	59
2	114
3	169

Car # 2
 $y = 55x$



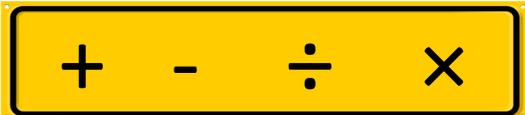
Mathematics

In grade eight, students take their understanding of unit rates and proportional relationships to a new level, connecting these concepts to points on a line and ultimately using them to solve linear equations that require them to apply algebraic reasoning as well as knowledge of the properties of operations. Students will also expand their understanding of numbers beyond rational numbers to include numbers that are irrational - meaning that they cannot be written as a simple fraction, such as the square root of 2 or $\sqrt{2}$.



Samples of the Work Your Student Will Be Doing

- ◇ Understanding that every rational number (such as $\frac{1}{2}$, 0.3, 2, or -2) can be written as a decimal, but that the decimal form of an irrational number (such as $\sqrt{2}$) is both non-repeating and infinite.
- ◇ Determining the value of square roots of small perfect squares (such as: $\sqrt{49} = 7$) and cube roots of small perfect cubes.
- ◇ Graphing proportional relationships and interpreting the unit rate as the slope (how steep or flat a line is).
- ◇ Solving and graphing one - and two-variable linear equations.
- ◇ Understanding functions and comparing the properties of two functions represented in different ways (in a table, graph, equation, or description).
- ◇ Learning and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.
- ◇ Solving problems involving the volume of cylinders, cones, spheres and determine congruence and similarity.



ELA Progressions



Here is an example of how students will develop literacy skills across grade levels as they read and write increasingly challenging works of literature and informational text.

Seventh Grade Reading

Students determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text. They can provide an objective summary.

Eighth Grade Reading

Students determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to characters, setting, and plot.

High School Reading

Students determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details.

Seventh Grade Writing

Students introduce a topic, preview what is to follow, develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, quotations, and details, and provide a concluding statement supporting what has been explained. They organize the ideas and information using strategies. The writing style is formal and uses appropriate transitions to create cohesion.

Eighth Grade Writing

Students introduce a topic, preview what is to follow, develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, quotations, and details, and provide a concluding statement supporting what has been explained. They organize the ideas and information using strategies. The writing style is formal and uses appropriate transitions to create cohesion.

High School Writing

Students introduce a topic and develop it with well-chosen relevant and sufficient facts, definitions, quotations, and details. It concludes with a statement that follows from and supports the information presented. They organize ideas, use transitions, and integrate precise language throughout.

Samples of Texts Students Will Work with During ELA

Literature: *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Little Women*
 Informational: *Preamble and First Amendment to the US Constitution; Words We Live: Your Annotated Guide to the US Constitution*

What Students Will Be Asked To Do

Literature

Summarize the development of the morality of Tom in Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and analyze the connection to the theme of accountability as it is conveyed through the characters, setting, and plot.

Informational

Analyze the governmental structure of the United States by citing specific textual evidence from primary sources such as the Preamble and First Amendment of the US Constitution, as well as secondary sources such as Linda R. Monk's *Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide to the Constitution*.



Tips for Talking with Teachers!

Don't be afraid to reach out to your child's teacher. You are still an important part of your child's education. Ask to see samples of your child's work and discuss his/her progress with the teacher using questions like:



- ◇ Is my child producing quality work in reading and writing? Can they transfer these skills to their work in different content areas?
- ◇ What are my child's strengths and weaknesses in literacy?
- ◇ What additional support or resources can I provide my child at home so they are prepared for high school?
- ◇ How can I encourage my child to develop proficient speaking and listening skills at home?



How Can Parents Help at Home?

- ◇ Provide time and space away from distractions for your child to read independently.
- ◇ Ask your child what topics, events, or activities he or she likes. Look for books, magazines, or related materials online about these topics that would motivate your child to read.
- ◇ Provide opportunities for your child to write informative texts about topics that interest him/her using technology to publish writing that is clear and purposeful.
- ◇ Encourage your child to develop proficient listening and speaking skills by having him/her paraphrase information, discuss misleading ideas, or deliver oral directions.
- ◇ Make time for conversation at home. Discuss current events, shared interests, and future aspirations for education and career.
- ◇ Visit museums, zoos, theatres, historical sites, aquariums, and other educational places to help increase your child's exposure to new knowledge and vocabulary.

