Our conversation today

- CCSS and Model Curriculum Overview
- PARCC Updates
- NJ ASK Transition
- Regional Achievement Centers
- College and Career Readiness Task Force
The Quiet Revolution & Model Curriculum

Common Core State Standards
- Fewer, clearer, more rigorous
- Internationally benchmarked

Commonness
- Leverage state and nation-wide expertise (46 States and DC)
- PARCC (23 States and DC)

Continuous improvement
- Model 1.0 followed by Model 2.0
- Professional Development (content & grade specific)
The CCSS Difference: Grade 7 ELA

1. Produce written work and oral work that demonstrate comprehension of informational materials.

After: CCSS (2010)
2. Determine two or more central ideas in a text and analyze their development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.
The CCSS Difference: Grade 8 Math

1. Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.

After: CCSS (2010)
1. Explain a proof of the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse.
2. Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to determine unknown side lengths in right triangles in real-world and mathematical problems in two and three dimensions.
3. Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to find the distance between two points in a coordinate system.
The CCSS Difference: Grade 3-5 ELA: Integration of Knowledge and ideas

Grade 3: *Compare and contrast the most important points and key details* presented in *two texts* on the same topic.

Grade 4: *Integrate information* from two texts on the same topic *in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgably*.

Grade 5: Integrate information from *several texts* on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgably.
Write arguments to support claim(s) in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence

Introduce *precise* knowledgeable claims(s), establish the *significance* of the claim(s), *distinguish* the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an *organization* that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaim(s), reasons and evidence.

Develop claim(s) and counterclaim(s) *fairly and thoroughly*, supplying the *most relevant evidence* for each while pointing out the *strengths and limitations* of both in a manner that *anticipates the audience’s* knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
## Model Curriculum 1.0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHATStudents need to Learn</th>
<th>HOWWe can best Instruct</th>
<th>WHENdo we know students have Learned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Learning Objectives</strong></td>
<td><strong>Instruction</strong></td>
<td><strong>Formative Assessments</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CCSS Standard 1</strong></td>
<td>SLO #1</td>
<td>• Model Lessons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLO #2</td>
<td>• Model Tasks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CCSS Standard 2</strong></td>
<td>SLO #3</td>
<td>• Engaging Instructional Strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLO #4</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>SLO #5</td>
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</table>

**General Bank of Assessment Items 2.0**
- Student level learning reports
- Professional development
- Resource reviews
## Model Curriculum

Grade 3 sample formative assessment items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code #</th>
<th>CCSS and/or NJCCCS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.NF.1</td>
<td>Understand a fraction $\frac{1}{b}$ as the quantity formed by 1 part when a whole is partitioned into $b$ equal parts; understand a fraction $\frac{a}{b}$ as the quantity formed by $a$ parts of size $\frac{1}{b}$.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Vocabulary
- Partitioning
- Unknown
- Equation
- Multiple
- Properties of Operations
- Arrays

### Assessment

#### Sample SLO #3

Find the fraction numeral which names the location X.

- a. $\frac{2}{4}$
- b. $\frac{2}{3}$
- c. $\frac{1}{2}$
- d. $\frac{3}{4}$

#### Sample SLO #3

Bob, Jasmine, Margo, Tim and Elijah were a team. Only Bob and Margo were bused to school. What part of the team did not arrive by bus?  
A. $\frac{2}{3}$  
B. $\frac{3}{5}$  
C. $\frac{2}{5}$  
D. $\frac{1}{2}$
• **Common Core State Standards** are critical, but just the first step

• **Common Assessments** aligned to the Common Core will **help** ensure the new standards truly reach every classroom

• **Quality Implementation** is required for students to reap the benefits of new standards
PARCC Assessment Design
English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics, Grades 3-11

- **Diagnostic Assessment**
  - Early indicator of student knowledge and skills to inform instruction, supports, and PD
  - Non-summative

- **Mid-Year Assessment**
  - Performance-based
  - Emphasis on hard-to-measure standards
  - Potentially summative

- **Performance-Based Assessment (PBA)**
  - Extended tasks
  - Applications of concepts and skills
  - Required

- **End-of-Year Assessment**
  - Innovative, computer-based items
  - Required

- **Speaking And Listening Assessment**
  - Locally scored
  - Non-summative, required

2 Optional Assessments/Flexible Administration
Goal #2: Build a Pathway to College and Career Readiness

K-2 formative assessment being developed, aligned to the PARCC system

Timely student achievement data showing students, parents and educators whether ALL students are on-track to college and career readiness

College readiness score to identify who is ready for college-level coursework

Targeted interventions & supports:
- 12th-grade bridge courses
- PD for educators

SUCCESS IN FIRST-YEAR, CREDIT-BEARING, POSTSECONDARY COURSEWORK

ONGOING STUDENT SUPPORTS/INTERVENTIONS
Claims Driving Design: ELA/Literacy

Students are on-track or ready for college and careers

- Students read and comprehend a range of sufficiently complex texts independently
- Students write effectively when using and/or analyzing sources.
- Students build and present knowledge through research and the integration, comparison, and synthesis of ideas.

**Reading Literature**

**Reading Informational Text**

**Vocabulary Interpretation and Use**

**Written Expression**

**Conventions and Knowledge of Language**
Students are on-track or ready for college and careers

- Solve problems involving the major content for their grade level with connections to practices
- Solve problems involving the additional and supporting content for their grade level with connections to practices
- Express mathematical reasoning by constructing mathematical arguments and critiques
- Use the modeling practice to solve real world problems
- Demonstrate fluency in areas set forth in the Standards for Content in grades 3-6
PARCC Timeline Through 2011-12

**PARCC Tools & Resources**

- **Model Content Frameworks released (Nov 2011)**
- **Educator Leader Cadres launched**
- **Item & task prototypes released**

**PARCC Assessment Implementation**

- **Fall 2011**
  - Item development begins
- **Winter 2012**
- **Spring 2012**
  - Updated Model Content Frameworks Released
- **Summer 2012**
  - Item & task prototypes released
- **Fall 2012**
Timeline Through First PARCC Administration in 2014-2015

**PARCC Tools & Resources**

- Partnership Resource Center launched
- Professional development modules released
- K-2 Formative Tools Released
- College-ready tools released
- Diagnostic assessments released
- Optional Diagnostic and Midyear PARCC Assessments
- Standard Setting in Summer 2015

**PARCC Assessment Implementation**

- Pilot/field testing begins
- Model Instructional Units Released
- Expanded field testing of diagnostic assessment
- Expanded field testing
- Summative PARCC Assessments

Dates:
- Spring 2013
- Summer 2013
- Fall 2013
- Winter 2014
- Spring 2014
- Summer 2014
- Fall 2014
- Winter 2015
- Spring 2015
Assessment Transition Timeline

- **Spring 2012**: NJ ASK Aligned to NJCCCS
- **Spring 2013**: NJ ASK Aligned to the CCSS
- **Spring 2014**: NJ ASK Aligned to the CCSS
- **SY 2014-15**: Full administration of PARCC assessments

“Transitional Assessments”
Regional Achievement Centers
Context for the Regional Achievement Centers (RACs)

Through New Jersey’s waiver from provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the Department of Education has developed a new school accountability system to replace certain provisions of No Child Left Behind.

The Department is undergoing a fundamental shift from a system of primarily oversight and monitoring to service delivery and support

RACs represent the Department’s most ambitious, focused effort to date to improve student achievement across the state:
  • Shift focus from all schools to low performing schools
  • Significant resources aligned with proven turnaround principles
  • State resources and activities coordinated to support RACs
Regional Achievement Center mission & guiding principles

RAC Mission Statement:
New Jersey’s Regional Achievement Centers, struggling schools, and their districts will partner to set clear goals for student growth, put proven turnaround principles into action, and use data to drive decision-making and accountability. Working together, we will meet our shared goal of closing the achievement gap and preparing all of our students for success in college and career.

RAC Guiding Principles:
- **Partnership**: Regional Achievement Centers, Priority and Focus Schools, and their districts work together.
- **Research base**: School turnaround principles proven to drive student achievement are put into action.
- **Support**: High impact professional development is regularly provided to teachers, leaders, and Regional Achievement Center teams. Resources are targeted to support Priority and Focus Schools.
- **Accountability**: RAC teams, Priority and Focus Schools, and their districts are held directly accountable for results.
Regional Achievement Centers approach

- Identify schools
- Assess needs
  Quality School Review (QSR) and School Improvement Plan
- Implement targeted interventions
  aligned to proven turnaround principles

8 Turnaround Principles

1. **School Leadership**: The principal has the ability to lead the turnaround effort
2. **School Climate and Culture**: A climate conducive to learning and a culture of high expectations
3. **Effective Instruction**: Teachers utilize research-based effective instruction to meet the needs of all students
4. **Curriculum, Assessment, and Intervention System**: Teachers have the foundational documents and instructional materials needed to teach to the rigorous college and career ready standards that have been adopted
5. **Effective Staffing Practices**: The skills to better recruit, retain and develop effective teachers and school leaders
6. **Enabling the Effective Use of Data**: School-wide use of data focused on improving teaching and learning, as well as climate and culture
7. **Effective Use of Time**: Time is designed to better meet student needs and increase teacher collaboration focused on improving teaching and learning
8. **Effective Family and Community Engagement**: Increased academically focused family and community engagement
### Regional Achievement Centers approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major element</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Illustrative example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality School Review (QSR)</td>
<td>Spring and fall 2012</td>
<td>Baseline evaluation of schools on indicators based upon the 8 turnaround principles; replaces CAPA</td>
<td>• Turnaround Principle: Quality of Instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Improvement Plan (SIP)</td>
<td>Aug – Oct 2012</td>
<td>Collaborative plan created by schools, districts, and the RAC staff for specific intervention activities against all QSR indicators</td>
<td>• QSR Indicator 3.3: Teachers use frequent checks for understanding during and at the end of each lesson to inform future instruction. Evidence of need:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Accountability Management</td>
<td>Sept 2012 – ongoing</td>
<td>Clearly defined metrics to measure implementation progress and initial student outcomes on the SIP intervention activities</td>
<td>• SIP intervention activities on indicator:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Student performance</td>
<td>• 50-day review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ 95% attendance at targeted PD session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ 50 – 70% of teachers observed used high quality checks for understanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 100-day review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ 70 – 90% of teachers observed used high quality checks for understanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Formative assessments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ 18 week assessment: 10 point increase from baseline in reading and math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• NJASK:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ 45% proficiency (4 point increase) in both math and reading in year 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Turnaround Principle:** Quality of Instruction
- **QSR Indicator 3.3:** Teachers use frequent checks for understanding during and at the end of each lesson to inform future instruction.
- **Evidence of need:**
  - Less than 50% of teachers observed used high quality checks for understanding
### RAC support model: field-based teams partner with Priority and Focus Schools

**Chief Academic Officer**: Penny MacCormack

**School Improvement Director**

**Executive Director for Regional Achievement (7)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RAC Staff Team (# varies by region)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Turnaround Coaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Elementary Literacy Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Secondary Literacy Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Mathematics Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Instructional Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State English Learners Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Culture &amp; Climate Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Data Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Human Capital Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Intervention/Special Ed Specialist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Executive Directors for Regional Achievement** lead RAC teams and work directly with LEA leadership.

**State Turnaround Coaches** work directly with principals and ensure interventions are coordinated & cohesive.

**Content-area specialists** partner with school leaders (e.g., data leader) and staff to build capacity in specific turnaround areas.

**Project Managers** monitor the progress and success of RAC interventions.
RACs are organized geographically; each RAC field team will have an office within the region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Counties</th>
<th># Priority Schools</th>
<th># Focus Schools</th>
<th>Total Priority &amp; Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Morris - Sussex - Warren</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bergen - Passaic</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Essex - Hudson</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hunterdon - Mercer - Somerset - Union</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Middlesex – Monmouth - Ocean</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Camden - Burlington</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Atlantic - Cape May - Cumberland - Salem - Gloucester</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subject to revision

- Indicates Regional HQ
RAC focus: capacity building, sustainability, shared accountability

**Capacity building**
- RAC teams spend 90% of time in Priority Schools
- Priority Schools only will hire or identify leaders in math, literacy, data, and climate and culture
  - RAC teams will establish professional development and other training opportunities for schools leaders on tailored topics

**Sustainability**
- RACs work with P&F Schools to align Title I and/or district funds with School Improvement Plans
- Priority Schools receive RAC support for three years at a minimum
- Focus Schools receive RAC support for two years at a minimum

**Shared Accountability**
- RAC staff are equally accountable for Priority School success
- Seven-week cycle is used to report on P&F School progress against goals

**Urgent action:** Priority Schools that fail to implement the required interventions or fail to demonstrate required improvement in student academic achievement may become subject to state-ordered closure or other action
Transition to College and Career Ready Task Force
The Problem:

Disconnect between High School graduation requirements and College & Career readiness

- College Remediation Rates
- Business/Industry Failure Rates
Task Force Charge

- What does college and career readiness mean?

- What is the appropriate way to assess this level of achievement?

- What graduation requirements should be mandatory, including comprehensive examinations and end-of-course assessments?

- What processes, benchmarks, and timelines should be established to guide the transition from the current system to the new system?
Task Force Membership

- PreK-12
- Community Colleges
- 4-Year Colleges
- Business/Industry
- State Department of Education
What does college and career readiness mean?

Common Core State Standards

- Adopted by New Jersey June 2010
- Literacy (ELA, Social Studies/History, Science)
- Mathematics
- Focused, clear, coherent progression
- 46 states & DC

The Task force recognized that other measures should be included
What is the appropriate way to assess this level of achievement?

End-of-Course Assessments

- Correspond to specific learning standards
- Inform classroom practice and teacher professional development
- PARCC (23 states): Grades 9,10,11 ELA and Mathematics
- DOE to develop additional EOCs (initially Science and Social Studies)
What graduation requirements should be required?

- DOE and Higher Education to determine EOC “proficiency” levels
- DOE to determine number and type of EOCs required for a high school diploma (includes CCSS and non-CCSS)
- Districts have flexibility on non-CCSS assessment development
What processes, benchmarks, and timelines should be established to guide the transition from the current system to the new system?

**PHASED TRANSITION**

**Phase I:**
- Current grades 9-12
- HSPA/AHSFA
- Optional: SAT, ACS, Accuplacer/Bridge course

**Phase II:**
- Current grades 5-8
- Pilot new EOCs (teacher training and setting proficiency)
- Optional SAT, ACT, Accuplacer/Bridge course

**Phase III:**
- Current grade 4 and below
- New EOC graduation requirements include re-taking modules
What you can expect of me...

• Willingness to listen, learn & reflect
• Quiet determination
• Persistence
• Resilience

What I need from you ...

• Honest constructive feedback
• Willingness to problem solve
• Expect the DOE to continuously improve