



# The Florida Standards: What Every Parent Should Know

Dr. Lois McKee- Assistant Principal  
Curriculum

Mr. William Scales- Testing Coordinator

# Improving Instruction Today; Preparing for Tomorrow



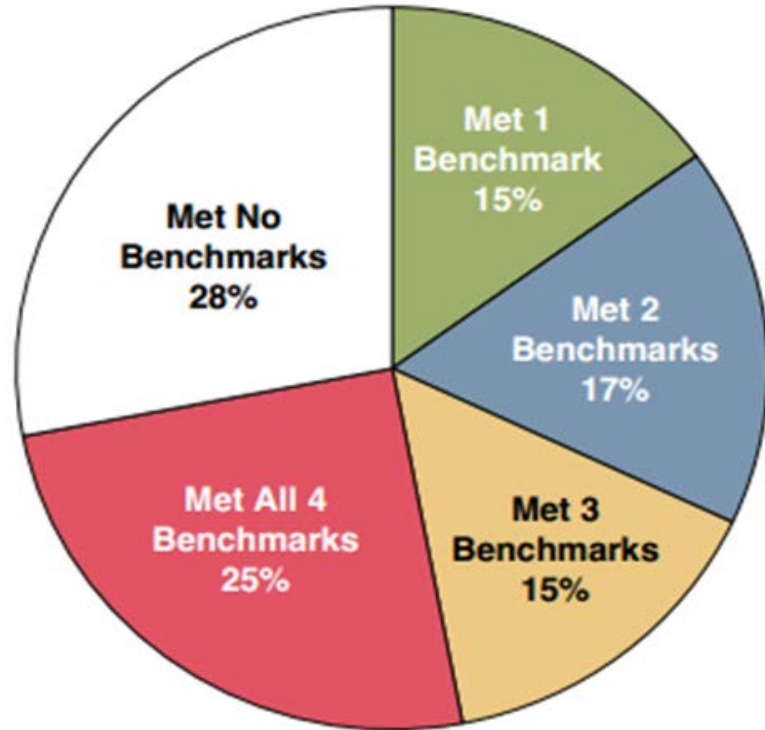


# Intended Outcomes:

- What are the Florida Standards?
- How did this national movement get started?
- Who is impacted by the standards change?
- What are the implications for teachers and students with this transition?
- How can you support your child in this journey?
- Where can you find additional information?

# Are we preparing our students?

Percent of ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Number of ACT College Readiness Benchmarks Attained, 2011



Student achievement is drastically low. Our nation is at a moment of crisis when it comes to preparing our students for the rigors of college and the demands of the increasingly global workplace.

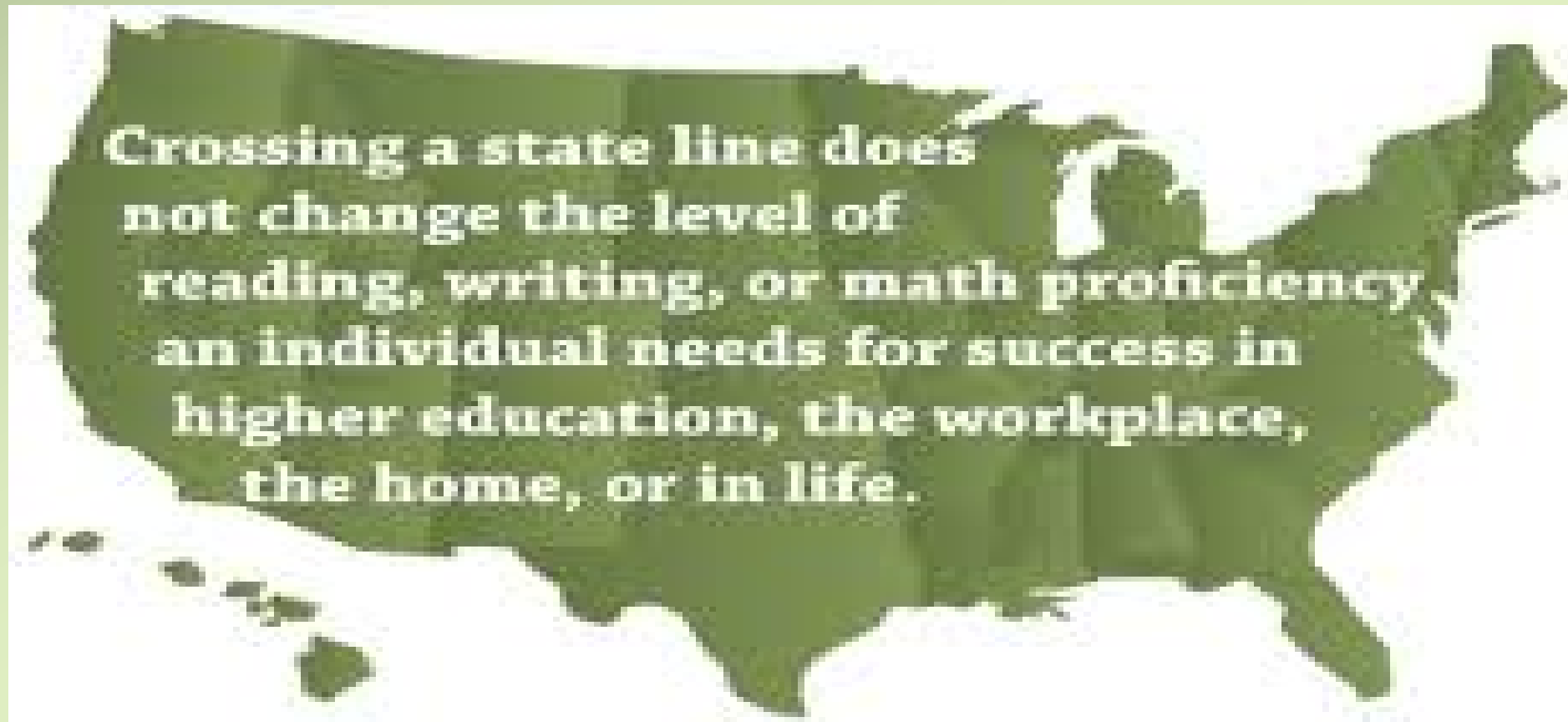
Source:

<http://www.act.org/research/policymakers/cccr11/pdf/ConditionofCollegeandCareerReadiness2011.pdf>




# Common Core Overview – How did all of this come about?

So what is the big deal?



# Were the Florida “Next Generation Sunshine State standards rigorous enough?

- What type of thinking is involved?
- How deeply do you need to understand a topic to interact with the content being presented?
- What kinds of cognitive tasks are being asked of students? Simple recall of facts? Analyze a complex argument?



# Why did we need a change in Florida's Standards?

## Low Levels of Rigor

- NGSSS featured large amounts of knowledge and recall learning targets
- Under-developing critical thinking abilities
- Disadvantaged in college and the workplace

# Why did we need a change?

## Lack of Clarity

- “Write for a variety of purposes.”
- “Respond to variety of literary/informational texts.”
- “Competently use money.”
- Were these standards clear to teachers, students, and parents?



# Why did we need a change?

## Inconsistencies

- Different districts set different learning targets
- Different classrooms learning different topics
- We must expect high achievement from all students in all classrooms
- Florida chose to include more standards than those outlined in Common Core

# How are Florida Standards different?

- Increased complexity of texts
- Focus on foundational math skills and application in novel, real-world situations
- A return to depth as opposed to breadth
- Increased focus on justifying and presenting results and methods
- Critical reading and writing infused across all curricular areas
- Re-ordering of math content to reflect research-based path to college and career readiness

# Benefits of Florida Standards

## **Preparation:**

The Florida Standards will prepare students for both college and the workplace and emphasizes higher-order skills instead of knowledge and recall.

# Benefits of Florida Standards

## Competition:

The Florida Standards have been influenced by internationally-benchmarked standards, ensuring that our students are prepared to be competitive in the global job market.

# Benefits of Florida Standards

## Clarity:

The standards are focused, coherent, and clear. Everyone knows what is expected of our students.



# Benefits of Florida Standards

## **Collaboration:**

Florida Standards will be a foundation for teachers across districts to work together from the same blueprints. This will facilitate the sharing of best practices.

# What are the standards?

- English/Language Arts (ELA)
  - where Reading resides
- Mathematics

# Who is impacted?

- K-12 students
- Current 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> graders will take the new Florida State Assessments (FSA)

# When is this happening?

- NOW!
- Have been working towards the instructional shifts over the past two years.
- Fully implemented and assessed in 2014-2015

# What are the implications?

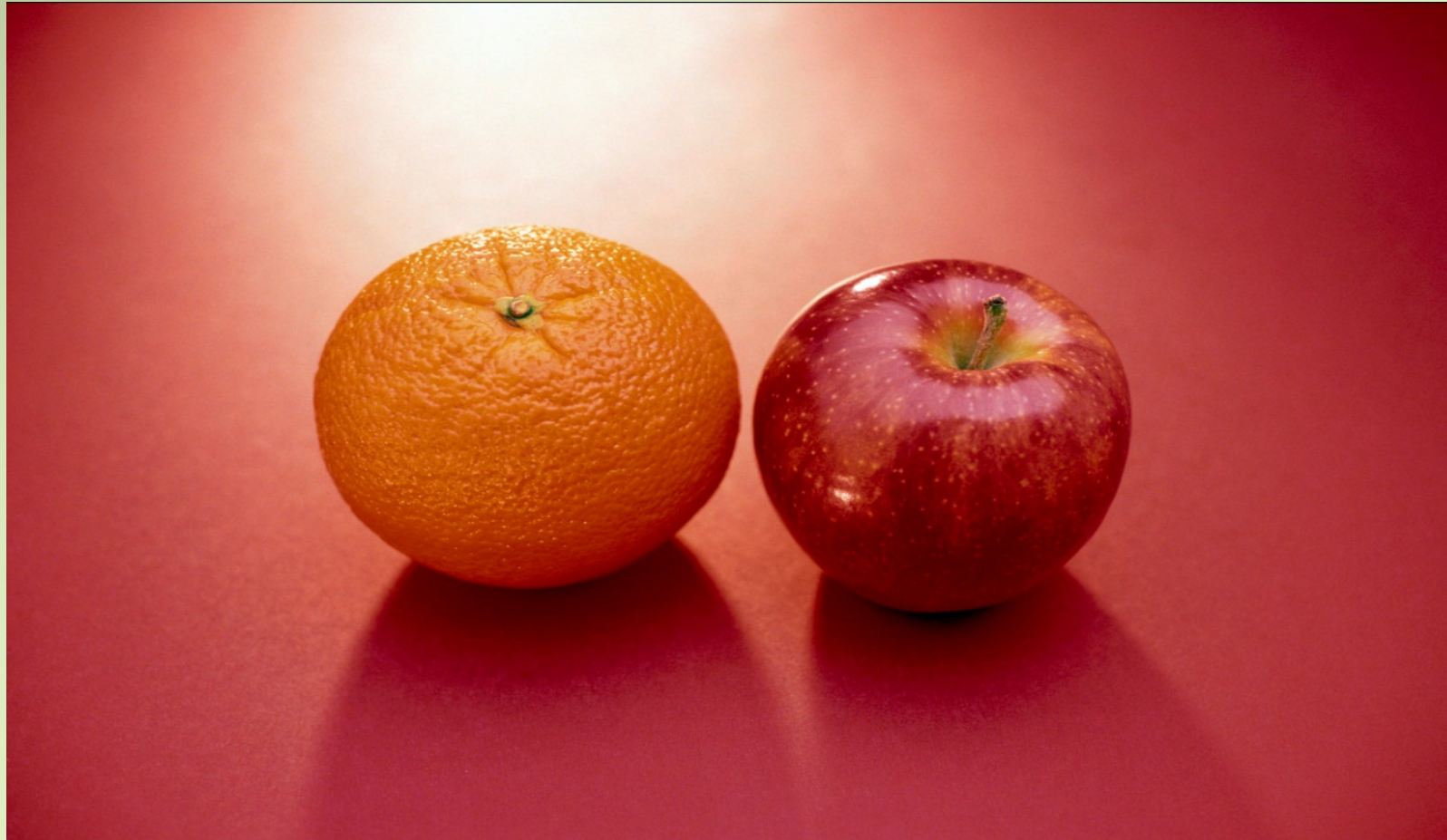
The Florida Standards and their accompanying assessments will provide a valid comparison to other districts across the state, and to some degree to other states.

- Promotion
- Graduation
- College Admission



# FCAT v. FSA

## Reading & Writing





# Shifts in English Language Arts

- 1) PK – 5: Balancing Informational Text and Literature
- 2) 6-12: Building Knowledge in the Disciplines
- 3) Staircase of Complexity
- 4) Text-based Answers
- 5) Writing from Multiple Sources
- 6) Academic Vocabulary

# Instructional **CHANGES**

- Attention to **Text** Complexity
- Emphasis on Student **Tasks** (especially writing)
- Responsibility for Reading & Writing **Instruction**
  - Every Teacher, Every Subject, Every Day!

# NGSSS v. FSA Mathematics





# Mathematics

## Standards for Mathematical **CONTENT** (Familiar)

- Define what students should know and be able to do (The “What”)

## Standards for Mathematical **PRACTICE** (New and Different)

- Describe ways in which the mathematical content standards should be approached (The “How”)





# Instructional CHANGES in Math

- Promote deep student discussion on the content
- Emphasis on Student Tasks (performance-tasks)
- Include **PRACTICE** Standards at all grade levels
- Expanded use of technology



# Mathematical Practice Standards

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Attend to precision.
- Look for and make use of structure.
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

# Where can I go for more information about the standards?

Resources:

## ***Parent Guides to Student Success***

[www.pta.org/common\\_core\\_standards.asp](http://www.pta.org/common_core_standards.asp)

- By grade level
- Sample of what your child will be working on
- Activities included for you to support at home

So what might these tests look like?

[www.fsassessments.org/](http://www.fsassessments.org/)

# Beyond the Classroom

- PCS website – [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org)
- Online learning tools
- Digital Learning
- Beyond the Classroom





# Additional Resources

Other useful websites to search for information:

- [www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org)
- [www.cpalms.org](http://www.cpalms.org)



# For More Information.....

You may contact:

Dr. Lois McKee, Seminole High School

[Mckeel@pcsb.org](mailto:Mckeel@pcsb.org)