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State Capitol North, 325 Don Gaspar, Suite 200  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
Phone: (505) 986-4591 Fax: (505) 986-4338  
<http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/lesc/lescdefault.aspx>



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August 19, 2013

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Legislative Education Study Committee

**FR:** Sarah M. Amador-Guzman and Travis Dulany

**RE: STAFF REPORT: COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS: UPDATE**

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**INTRODUCTION**

Designed to emphasize critical thinking skills and to ensure that students leave high school with the necessary skills for college and/or a career, the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) initiative began in December 2008 when the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) formed a collaborative effort and published the document *Benchmarking for Success*. Currently, the initiative includes 48 states (New Mexico among them), the District of Columbia, Guam, and the US Virgin Islands.

In June 2010, the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) staff reported to the committee that the Governor and the Secretary-designate of Public Education had signed a memorandum of agreement in May 2009 with the NGA and the CCSSO, along with other states and the District of Columbia, to develop common standards in English/language arts (ELA) and mathematics for grades K-12.

According to the NGA, the standards were designed to be:

- aligned with college and work expectations;
- clear, understandable, and consistent;
- based on rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills;
- built upon strengths and lessons of current state standards;

- internationally benchmarked; that is, informed by other top-performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society; and
- evidence-based.

In order to keep the committee informed on this initiative, this staff report includes:

- a summary of 2012 interim testimony;
- an overview of Public Education Department (PED) professional development to date; and
- related background.

For the August 2013 meeting, LESC staff have arranged for the following presentations on the topic of CCSS:

- Hanna Skandera, Secretary-designate of Public Education, will provide an update on the department's statewide trainings for CCSS professional development; and
- Melanie Hobbs, Assistant Director, Educational Issues Department, American Federation of Teachers (AFT), Washington, DC Office, will outline recommendations of an ad hoc committee convened to during school year 2010-2011 identify approaches for the rollout of the CCSS.

## **SUMMARY OF 2012 INTERIM TESTIMONY**

During the 2012 interim, the LESC heard testimony about the CCSS in both formal presentations on the topic itself and references within presentations on related topics.

The initial testimony, in June, came from the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), when a staff member described the criteria used to develop the CCSS and emphasized that the standards are:

- not a federal mandate, but rather a common effort among the states;
- focused on the core areas of ELA and mathematics;
- state-led; and
- not a curriculum or a national assessment, but rather a set of standards.

Among other points in the NCSL testimony:

- the implementation timeline continues through 2015 and includes several years of pilot programs in various districts and states; and
- New Mexico is a governing state member of one of the two consortia implementing the initiative, the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, which will administer its first summative assessment in 2015.

The NCSL testimony also addressed the cost of implementing the CCSS across the country. Estimates from two different institutes – the Pioneer Institute and the Fordham Institute – each of which has certain limitations, place the cost anywhere from a low of \$3.0 billion to a high of \$16.0 billion.

During the August and September interim meetings, the committee heard testimony on the implementation of the CCSS from representatives of the Pecos Valley Education Alliance (PVEA), Cooperative Educational Services (CES), the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory (SEDL), New Mexico State University (NMSU), and several school districts.

Members of the PVEA, a regional education cooperative serving five school districts, testified that the PVEA expects the total cost to implement the new standards in New Mexico to be approximately \$500,000. The PVEA testimony also explained the role of CES in obtaining resources for the implementation of the CCSS and noted that SEDL would be providing professional development and support. Testimony from the SEDL representative provided an overview of the major shifts in English/language arts and literacy as a result of the CCSS.

According to the NMSU testimony, the CCSS will provide several benefits to K-12 education in mathematics, among them:

- collaborative professional development based on best practices;
- development of common assessments and other tools;
- development of CCSS mathematics-aligned textbooks and resources; and
- development of resources for students to learn how to think and reason mathematically.

The summative assessments in mathematics, this testimony continued, will include a performance-based assessment that will be administered as close to the end of the school year as possible and that will focus on the mathematical practices of applying skills, concepts, and understanding to solve multi-step problems.

Staff from Las Cruces Public Schools (LCPS) testified that the district began its implementation of the CCSS over the summer of 2012 by:

- developing pacing guides for teachers;
- ensuring that all students have access to the CCSS; and
- creating a K-3 report card aligned to the CCSS.

Created by teams comprising two teachers, one instructional specialist, one administrator, and one district professional development school representative for English/language arts and mathematics, the LCPS pacing guides provide an interval-based description of what teachers teach in a particular grade or course, the order in which it is taught, and the amount of time dedicated to teaching the content. The purpose of the pacing guides is to ensure that all of the standards are addressed during the academic year, according to LCPS.

Finally, the CCSS testimony in November turned to information technology needs and mandatory computer-based testing scheduled to commence in school year 2014-2015.

## AN OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO DATE

As part of the initial *New Mexico Common Core State Standards Implementation Plan*, PED reported the following professional development timeline:

Key Implementation Steps	Timeframe	Responsibility
CCSS Summit Conference for District Teams	March 2-3, 2012	State/CCSSO
Begin Professional Development Service Providers Vetting Process	Spring 2012	State
Professional Development for grades K-3 on Study of Standards Process; Math Practices and Instructional Shifts; ELA Capacities of the Literate Individual and Instructional Shifts; Content Knowledge; Development of Instructional Units and Assessments	Spring/Summer 2012	State/Institutions of Higher Education/District
Begin ongoing study of CCSS including Instructional Shifts in ELA/Literacy and Math, ELA Capacities of the Literate Individual, Math Critical Areas of Focus and Mathematical Practices in grades 4-12	June 2012	District
Instructional Material Bureau provides training to Mathematics and ELA Adoption Review Committees	June 2012	State
Math and ELA CCSS Implementation Academies for grades K-3	Summer 2012	State/Institutions of Higher Education
Professional Development for grades 4-12 on Study of Standards Process; Math Practices and Instructional Shifts; ELA Capacities of the Literate Individual and Instructional Shifts; Content Knowledge; Development of Instructional Units and Assessments	Spring/Summer 2013	State/Institutions of Higher Education/District
Math and ELA CCSS Implementation Academies for grades 4-12	Summer 2013	State/Institutions of Higher Education
Literacy Academies for Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects	Summer 2013	State/Institutions of Higher Education
PARCC Academies for grades 3-11 Reading, Writing, and Math	Summer 2014	State/Institutions of Higher Education

A full timeline of the New Mexico CCSS implementation plan can be found in Attachment 1.

To further elaborate on CCSS professional development, the department has listed information and schedules on its website, including:

- *Five Components of the New Mexico Common Core Professional Development Program* (Attachment 2);
- *Key Roles and Participants* (Attachment 3); and
- a calendar of trainings in 2013 (Attachment 4).

## **RELATED BACKGROUND**

In 1967, legislation was enacted requiring the State Board of Education (now PED) to prescribe standards for all public schools in the state, including curriculum, academic content, and performance standards.

In 2001, in order to receive Title I funds, each state was required to:

- adopt rigorous content and academic achievement standards; and
- implement an accountability system based on a system of annual assessments aligned with those standards and approved by the US Department of Education for all students in grades 3 through 8 and once in high school in reading/language arts and mathematics.

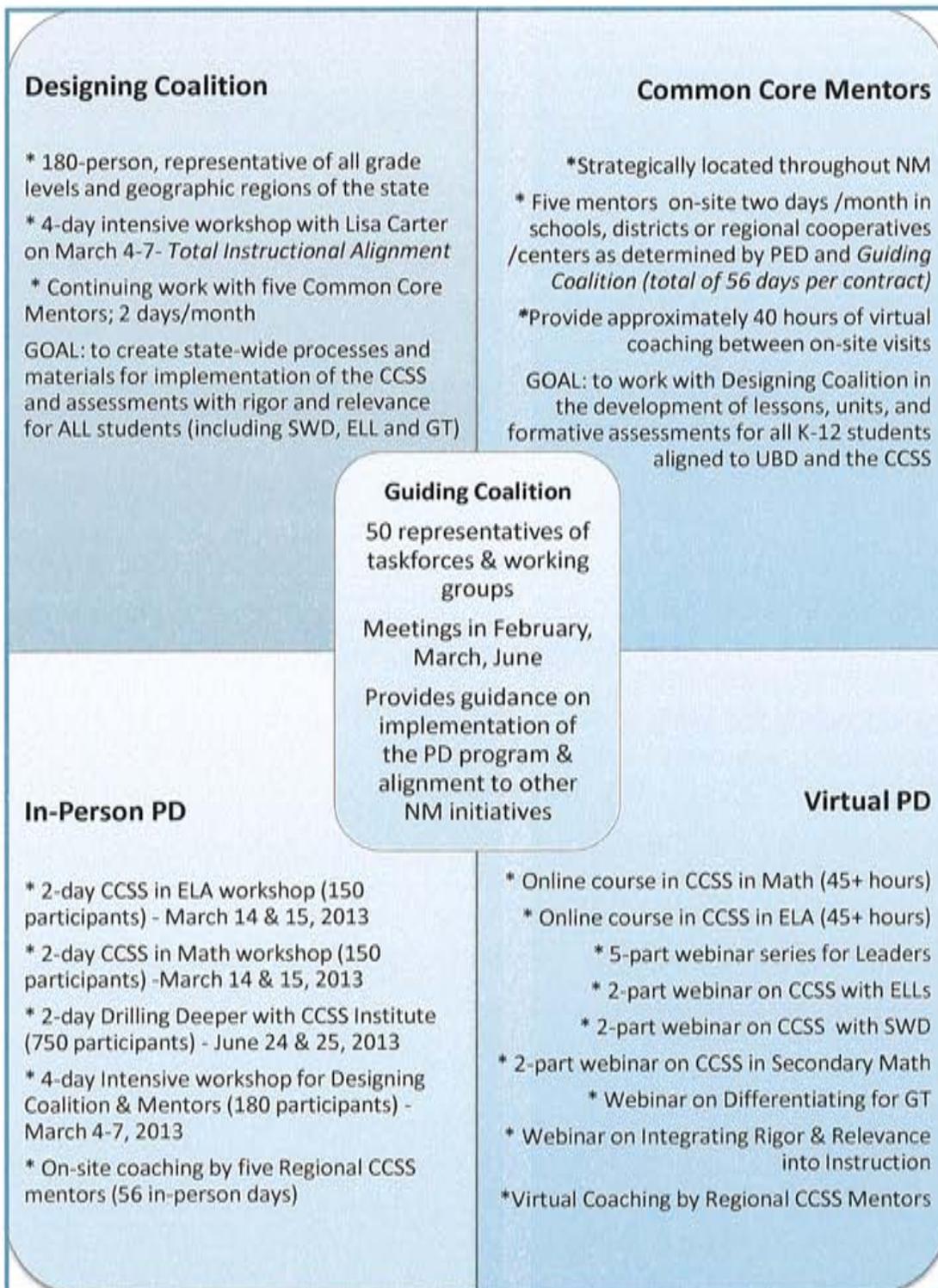
In 2007 and 2008, in connection with the LESC's study of high school redesign, and supported by an appropriation to the LESC, New Mexico joined the American Diploma Project. This effort, spearheaded by Achieve, Inc., provided states with a formal process to revise their mathematics and ELA standards so they aligned with the expectations of college and careers. A state team that included staff from the LESC, PED, and the Higher Education Department, as well as faculty from state public secondary and postsecondary institutions, spent 18 months reviewing and revising the state standards. The revised math standards were adopted in PED rule in June 2009, and the ELA standards in September 2009.

# NEW MEXICO COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS TIMELINE



2011–2012 School Year	2012–2013 School Year	2013–2014 School Year	2014–2015 School Year
<p><b>Curriculum</b></p> <p>Current New Mexico State Standards</p>	<p><b>Curriculum</b></p> <p>NM Common Core State Standards (NMCCSS) taught in grades K–3. Current New Mexico standards taught in all other grades.</p>	<p><b>Curriculum</b></p> <p>NM Common Core State Standards in effect for all grade levels.</p>	<p><b>Curriculum</b></p> <p>NM Common Core State Standards in effect for all grade levels.</p>
<p><b>Professional Development</b></p> <p>Awareness-building conferences &amp; regional Town Hall meetings.</p> <p>In-depth district Study of the Standards. State orientation, trainings and resources during the spring and summer.</p> <p>On-line information and materials made available.</p>	<p><b>Professional Development</b></p> <p>Regional <b>Teacher</b> training, emphasizing expertise in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMCCSS</li> <li>• Curriculum Alignment</li> <li>• Standards-based Education &amp; Assessment</li> <li>• NM Common Core State Standards Exemplar Lesson Plans</li> </ul> <p>Tools, workshops &amp; training available for <b>Districts</b>.</p>	<p><b>Professional Development</b></p> <p>Continued <b>Teacher</b> training, emphasizing expertise in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMCCSS</li> <li>• Curriculum Alignment</li> <li>• Standards-based Education &amp; Assessment</li> <li>• Model Curriculum Lesson Planning</li> </ul> <p>Tools, workshops &amp; training available for <b>Districts</b>.</p>	<p><b>Professional Development</b></p> <p>Ongoing <b>Teacher</b> training, emphasizing expertise in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMCCSS</li> <li>• Curriculum Alignment</li> <li>• Standards-based Education &amp; Assessment</li> <li>• Model Curriculum Lesson Planning</li> </ul> <p>Tools, workshops &amp; training available for <b>Districts</b>.</p>
<p><b>Assessment</b></p> <p>Current New Mexico Standards Based Assessment (SBA) for students in grades: 3–8, 10 &amp; 11.</p> <p>High School Exit Exam goes into effect.</p>	<p><b>Assessment</b></p> <p>Current New Mexico Standards Based Assessment (SBA) for students in grades 4–8, 10 &amp; 11.</p> <p>2013 SBA Bridge Assessment dually aligned to the NMCCSS and the NM State Standards for students in grade 3.</p> <p>High School Exit Exam in effect.</p>	<p><b>Assessment</b></p> <p>2014 SBA Bridge Assessment dually aligned to the NMCCSS Standards and the NM State Standards for students in grades 3-8, 10 &amp; 11.</p> <p>High School Exit Exam in effect.</p>	<p><b>Assessment</b></p> <p>PARCC on-line assessment provided to all students in grades 3–11.</p> <p>Meeting College and Career Ready Standards assessed through PARCC required for graduation.</p>
<p><b>Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision for Common Core articulated by the state.</li> <li>• NMCCSS website launches <a href="http://newmexicocommoncore.org">newmexicocommoncore.org</a></li> <li>• Public feedback enabled on new website and through conferences and regional Town Hall meetings.</li> <li>• Presentation &amp; promotional materials made available.</li> <li>• District diagnostic survey</li> </ul>	<p><b>Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State, regional and local conferences are held.</li> <li>• Website content expands. <a href="http://newmexicocommoncore.org">newmexicocommoncore.org</a></li> <li>• Public feedback continues via website.</li> <li>• Updates from the Secretary regarding assessment and professional development</li> <li>• Districts create plans to engage stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p><b>Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State, regional and local conferences are held.</li> <li>• Website content expands. <a href="http://newmexicocommoncore.org">newmexicocommoncore.org</a></li> <li>• Public feedback continues via website.</li> <li>• Updates from the Secretary regarding assessment and professional development</li> <li>• Districts further engage stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p><b>Communication</b></p> <p><a href="http://newmexicocommoncore.org">newmexicocommoncore.org</a> serves as the clearinghouse for NM Common Core State Standards information and feedback.</p>

Five Components of the New Mexico Common Core Professional Development Program



## **GUIDING COALITION**

- 50-member group, selected by PED, representative of the various taskforces and working committees in New Mexico - including, but not limited to:
  - NM Educator Leader Cadre
  - NM Teach
  - NM PED
  - Regional education cooperatives/centers
  - University education programs
  - Superintendents', principals', and teachers' organizations
- GOAL: alignment of the proposed professional development program of CCSS and assessments with the new NM Educator Effectiveness System and the NM School Grading System
- Three meetings; facilitated by Regional Common Core Mentor
  - February 13, 2013 (in-person)
  - Late March 2013 (virtual)
  - Late June 2013 (in-person)
- Providing feedback and guidance in the rollout of the professional development program
- Sharing pertinent information with their representative group
- Assisting in the celebration and promotion of the work of NM educators in implementing the CCSS and assessments

## **DESIGNING COALITION**

- 180-person, representative of all grade levels and geographic regions of the state
- 4-day intensive workshop with Lisa Carter (March 4 through 7, 2013)
- Continuing work with five Common Core Mentors
- GOAL: to create state-wide processes and materials for implementation of the CCSS and assessments with rigor and relevance for ALL students (including SWD, ELL and GT)
- PRODUCTS: will be shared via the NM CCSS website

## **COMMON CORE MENTORS**

- Strategically located throughout New Mexico- five regions
- Work on-site two days per month with members of the Designing Coalition
- Provide training to facilitators in a learn-see-do model
  - LEARNING from research-based materials and presentations
  - SEEING the strategy modeled in person or using video or other multi-media
  - OFFERING tools, templates, and ideas for action and implementation to their colleagues
- Provide approximately 40 hours of virtual coaching between on-site visits
- Targeted support to achieve the articulated NMPED goal of "increasing the number of 'A' and 'B' schools and decreasing the number of 'D' and 'F' schools"
- GOAL: to work with members of the Designing Coalition in the development of lessons, units, and formative assessments for all K-12 students aligned to UBD and the CCSS
- PRODUCTS: will be shared via the NM CCSS website

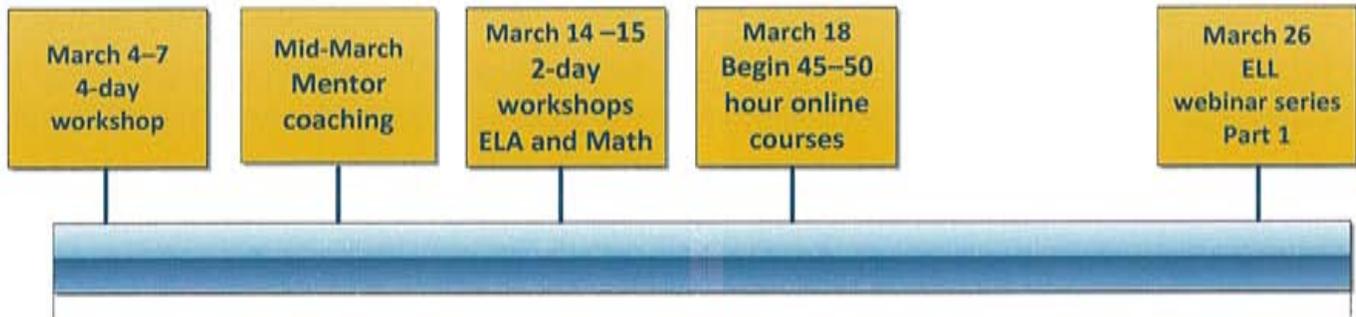
**Key Roles and Participants**  
**New Mexico Common Core Professional Development Program**

<b>Guiding Coalition (50 representatives)</b>			
<b>Key Role(s)</b>	<b>Learning Opportunities</b>	<b>Intended Participants</b>	<b>Recommended Prerequisite Knowledge</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guide the implementation of the New Mexico Common Core Professional Development Program</li> <li>Provide feedback to PED concerning the New Mexico Common Core Professional Development Program implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>February 13— meeting</li> <li>End of March—online meeting</li> <li>June— meeting</li> <li>Mid-March–June—Leadership and CCSS webinars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representatives of the various taskforces and working committees in New Mexico</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No required prerequisites</li> </ul>
<b>Designing Coalition (180 representatives)</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend the March 4-7 <i>Total Instructional Alignment</i> workshop &amp; develop exemplar lessons and formative assessments for implementing CCSS</li> <li>Give input to regional Common Core Mentors on conducting demonstration lessons in region</li> <li>Gain strategies and support from Common Core Mentors</li> <li>Influence district CCSS implementation plans through shared feedback, guidance and shared strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 4–7 <i>Total Instructional Alignment</i> workshop</li> <li>Continued work with Common Core Mentors (March through June: two days per month &amp; through virtual coaching)</li> <li>Mid-March–June—Leadership and CCSS webinars</li> <li>June 24–25—<i>Drilling Deeper with the Common Core Institute</i> (800 participants slots)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coaches</li> <li>Principals</li> <li>Instructional Leaders</li> <li>Curriculum Directors</li> <li>Directors of Professional Learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundational understanding of the CCSS</li> <li>Understanding of their district or school CCSS implementation plan</li> <li>Understanding of district or school needs in implementing the CCSS</li> </ul>
<b>District and School-based Leadership</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guide and support the implementation of CCSS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mid-March–June—Leadership and CCSS webinars</li> <li>June 24–25—<i>Drilling Deeper with the Common Core Institute</i> (800 participants slots)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District and School-based Administrators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No required prerequisites</li> </ul>
<b>Teachers</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement CCSS in classroom for all learners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 14–15—<i>Common Core in English/Language Arts</i> workshop (150 participant slots)</li> <li>March 14–15—<i>Common Core in Mathematics</i> workshop (150 participant slots)</li> <li>March 15–June 15 Online Courses—ELA, Math and ELL (500 participant slots total)</li> <li>Mid-March–June—CCSS webinars</li> <li>June 24–25—<i>Drilling Deeper with the Common Core Institute</i> (800 participants slots)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classroom teachers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No required prerequisites</li> </ul>



## Implementation Calendar

March



3/1/2013

3/31/2013

Time Period	Activity	Who should participate?
March 4–7	<b>In-Person</b> 4-day workshop <i>"Total Instructional Alignment Workshop with Dr. Lisa Carter"</i> 8:30–4:30 lunch from 12:00 –1:30 on your own Venue: Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown	Designing Coalition members (approximately 180 participants) Facilitator— Dr. Lisa Carter Common Core Mentors—Kim Bailey, Chris Jakicic, Martha Kaufeldt, Mary Kim Schreck
<a href="#">Click here to learn more</a>		
Beginning Mid-March	Mentors begin in-person and virtual coaching with identified regional and district educators in the Designing Coalition (two days per month)	Designing Coalition members
<a href="#">Click here to learn more</a>		
Beginning March 18	45–50 Hour Online Courses begin: <i>"Common Core Standards in Mathematics"</i> —taught by Tim Kanold <i>"Common Core Standards in English Language Arts"</i> —taught by Nancy Frey and Doug Fisher <i>"Teaching Reading and Comprehension to English Language Learners"</i> —taught by Margarita Calderon	500 subscriptions Elementary teachers, English Language Arts teachers, Mathematics teachers, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors, Bilingual directors
<a href="#">Register</a>		
March 14–15	<b>In-Person</b> 2-day workshop <i>"Common Core State Standards in Mathematics"</i> 8:00–4:00 Thursday 8:00–3:00 Friday— lunch on your own Venue: Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown	150 Participants Elementary teachers, Math teachers, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors
<a href="#">Click here to learn more</a>		
March 14–15	<b>In-Person</b> 2-day workshop <i>"Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts"</i> 8:00–4:00 Thursday 8:00–3:00 Friday—lunch on your own Venue: Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown	150 Participants Elementary teachers, English Language teachers, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors
<a href="#">Click here to learn more</a>		
March 26, 2013	2-part webinar series <i>Part 1: Teaching Reading and Comprehension to English Language Learners (ELL)</i> with Dr. Margarita Calderón	1000 participants Teachers, Bilingual directors, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors, Administrators
<a href="#">Register</a>		



4/1/2013

4/30/2013

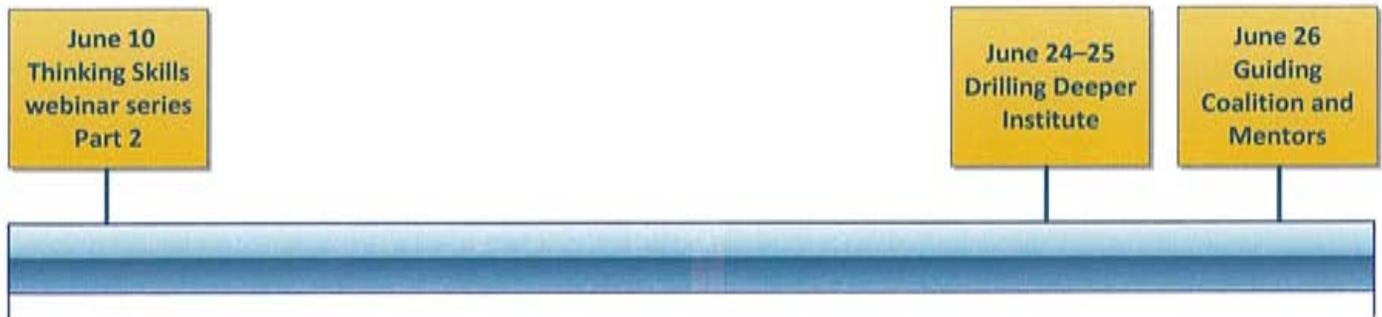
Time Period	Activity	Who should participate?
April 4, 2013 4:00 PM	Leadership webinar series: <u>Part 1</u> : Alignment of the CCSS to Current Programs and Practices with Cassandra Erkens	1000 participants Instructors, School and District leaders
<a href="#">Register</a>		
April 9, 2013 4:00 PM	Leadership webinar series: <u>Part 2</u> : Changes in Mathematical Practices with Tim Kanold	1000 participants Instructors, School and District leaders
<a href="#">Register</a>		
April 10, 2013 4:00 PM	2-part webinar series: Students With Disabilities (SWD) <u>Part 1</u> : Implementing the CCSS with Dr. Lee Ann Jung	1000 participants Teachers, Instructional coaches, Special education directors, Curriculum directors, Administrators
<a href="#">Register</a>		
April 18, 2013 4:00 PM	2-part webinar series: English Language Learners (ELL) <u>Part 2</u> : Teaching Reading and Comprehension with Dr. Margarita Calderón	1000 participants Teachers, Bilingual directors, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors, Administrators
<a href="#">Register</a>		
April 24, 2013 4:00 PM	2-part webinar series: Students With Disabilities (SWD) <u>Part 2</u> : Implementing the CCSS with Dr. Lee Ann Jung	1000 participants Teachers, Instructional coaches, Special education directors, Curriculum directors, Administrators
<a href="#">Register</a>		
April 30, 2013 4:00 PM	Leadership webinar series: <u>Part 3</u> : Changes in ELA Practices with Douglas Fisher	1000 participants Teacher, School, and District leaders
<a href="#">Register</a>		



5/1/2013

5/31/2013

Time Period	Activity	Who should participate?
Early May	Completion of online courses	500 participants Elementary, ELA Teachers, Mathematics teachers, and Curriculum coordinators
<a href="#">Register</a>		
May 6, 2013 4:00 PM	Leadership webinar series: <u>Part 4</u> : Differentiating Instruction for All Students At Risk with Martha Kaufeldt	1000 participants Teacher, School, and District leaders
<a href="#">Register</a>		
May 7, 2013 4:00 PM	Implementing the CCSS in Secondary Mathematics with Tim Kanold	1000 participants Middle and high school mathematics teachers, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors, Administrators
<a href="#">Register</a>		
May 8, 2013 4:00 PM	Implementing the CCSS: Differentiating for Gifted and Talented with Martha Kaufeldt	1000 participants Teachers, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors, Administrators
<a href="#">Register</a>		
May 9, 2013 4:00 PM	Leadership webinar series: <u>Part 5</u> : Preparing for the PARCC Assessments with Skip Fennel	1000 participants Teacher, School, and District Leaders
<a href="#">Register</a>		
May 22, 2013 4:00 PM	Integrating Rigor and Relevance into Instruction for CCSS with Dr. Robin Fogarty and Brian Pete	1000 participants Teachers, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors, Administrators
<a href="#">Register</a>		



6/1/2013

6/30/2013

Time Period	Activity	Who should participate?
June 10, 2013	How to Teach Thinking Skills in the CCSS with Dr. Robin Fogarty and Brian Pete	1000 participants Teachers, Instructional coaches, Curriculum directors, Administrators
<a href="#">Register</a>		
June 24–25	<b>In-Person</b> Drilling Deeper with the Common Core Standards Institute VENUE: Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town	800 Educators K–6 teachers, middle and secondary ELA and Mathematics teachers, Curriculum directors, Guiding Coalition, Designing Coalition, CTE teachers
<a href="#">Register</a>		
June 26	<b>In-Person</b> Meeting Venue: Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town	Guiding Coalition and Common Core Mentors
<a href="#">Register</a>		