

# The Connecticut Core Initiative

## 1) Supporting curriculum writing at the district level

- a. Working through the RESCs (Regional Educational Service Centers), the CT State Department of Education (CSDE) will provide \$500,000 to create curriculum academies
- b. CSDE will survey districts regarding their need for support in curriculum writing and fund additional curriculum academy funding as necessary.

## 2) Supporting professional development with the necessary funding, time and expertise

- a. Working through the RESCs, the state will allocate \$2 million to fund at least 1,000 professional training days and will increase if the demand exceeds the original 1,000.
- b. CSDE will create a Professional Support Grant Advisory committee, which will select grant recipients among teacher applicants for classroom resources.
- c. CSDE will provide \$2 million to fund instructional workshops for English language arts and math instruction and expand those workshops to include instruction in those areas for English language learners and students requiring special education.
- d. CSDE will support training and coaching for new to the profession teachers (2-4 years experience).
- e. CSDE will work with teacher prep colleges to ensure that professors training our future teachers are well versed in the Common Core.

## 3) Supporting effective, jargon-free communication support regarding the Common Core State Standards

- a. CSDE will provide communication toolkits for Superintendents and school leaders for the 2014-2015 school year.
- b. CSDE will regularly solicit feedback to assess districts' needs regarding implementation and progress

## 4) Providing the necessary resources to support successful Common Core Implementation

- a. Governor will continue to prioritize supporting technology upgrades to support schools' transition to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) through \$10 million grant opportunity for alterations, upgrades, and acquisition of technology and broad band.
- b. Through their CTCoreStandards Website and other approaches, the CSDE will continue to seek out high quality resources and make them available to Connecticut teachers.
- c. Create grant opportunity for teachers (\$100-\$2000) to build up classroom libraries and provide classroom resources.

### Other Actions:

- Governor will direct the State Board of Education to develop and approve a process for continued examination and evaluation of the implementation of the CCSS.

### Additional notes

- This report will be shared with PEAC as they continue to advise the educator evaluation process.