



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **NASBE APPLAUDS RELEASE OF COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS FOR K-12 EDUCATION**

**Arlington, Va.** — The National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) commends the National Governor’s Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) for their combined efforts to draft a set of common core standards in math and English language arts for K-12 education. The work of these organizations to build and engage a broad coalition to support this work is a laudable achievement in its own right. NASBE is pleased to be a member of the Advisory Board that has assisted in this effort as the work progressed.

As the draft standards are open for public comment for the next several weeks, it is critical to keep in mind that this is a state-led initiative focused on a national imperative to ensure that every student in every district is taught to a clear set of standards that will prepare them for a successful future. Although there may be concerns in some quarters about the shift from state-by-state standards to common standards, NASBE’s leadership is confident that the authors of the standards listened to the many representatives from education and the policy fields as they strived to address the issues of all those concerned.

“This is just the beginning of a process, not the end,” said NASBE Executive Director Brenda Welburn. “I hope people will be thoughtful and use this comment period to strengthen these common standards rather simply look for a reason not to support this important initiative. We need to work as a nation to ensure all students receive a high-quality education that prepares them for a greater future. The Common Core Standards is a vital component to that work.”

NASBE also recognizes that the needs of English language learners and special needs students are explicitly addressed in these standards as yet another sign that the perspectives of a broad range of groups were considered.

Since the NGA and CCSSO started their work to create standards in these subject areas, the discussion alone has spurred the consideration of common standards in science, the arts and social studies among the disciplinary groups, as policymakers and educators have come to realize that the basic educational needs of students do not differ from one state to the next.

NASBE’s final regional meetings on the standards will be in St. Louis March 29-30. [Podcasts](#) from our Southern, Western, and Northeast area meetings are available by following [this link](#).

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