



DR. GREG MURRY
SUPERINTENDENT, CONWAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Who can argue with the idea of states across America having a common goal and vision for educating students so that they can be nationally and internationally competitive? Common Core represents fewer, clearer and higher standards. By giving teachers fewer standards to focus on that are stated in a clearer manner and that cause rigor to be increased, we are giving students their best chance for future success.”



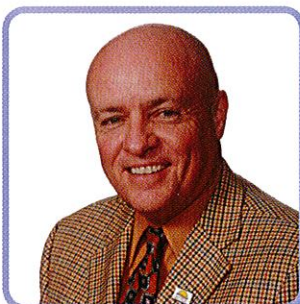
SHANE BROADWAY
DIRECTOR, ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

“College remediation rates have proven to be a solid marker of student success. According to data compiled by the state of Arkansas, students who do not have to take remedial classes in college are twice as likely to graduate. In Arkansas, we need higher college and career ready standards because even though students are graduating and passing all required tests, many still need remediation in college.”



DR. ANGELA SEWALL
EMERITUS DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

“To reject these thoughtfully considered standards...because of the unknown or even because of the challenge associated with some of the consequent learning is not unlike refusing to move to a new city for employment that pays more and is in the field in which an individual has always wanted to work, simply because one has never visited the city before.”



MICHAEL POORE
SUPERINTENDENT, BENTONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Common Core State Standards are more demanding than the previous standards and push students beyond rote memorization of curriculum. Students are actually being challenged through this curriculum to inquire, investigate, collaborate and defend. These high academic expectations match the expectations of other global leaders in education.”





COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

TRUTH MATTERS

FICTION: School districts are collecting students' private information and sharing it with the federal government for the development of a national database.

FACT: The collection of data and how it is used has not changed. The information is only used to assist teachers as they work with their students.

FICTION: Common Core Standards were developed by the federal government.

FACT: The federal government played no role in the development of Common Core State Standards and state adoption is not mandatory. Educators from all over the nation, including Arkansas, developed Common Core State Standards to better prepare students for success in college, career and life.

FICTION: Common Core tells teachers how to teach.

FACT: Common Core is not a curriculum. Common Core establishes a benchmark for measuring student learning and the educational objectives that must be reached. It does not dictate how teachers should teach. Local schools and teachers will decide how to best help students reach the standards.

FICTION: Teachers are overwhelmed and are receiving no guidance and support.

FACT: Change of any magnitude can be stressful and overwhelming. While implementation of Common Core State Standards can vary from school to school, the state and local districts are striving to provide resources and training to educators to make the process less burdensome.

FICTION: The basics, especially in mathematics, are no longer being taught.

FACT: Students are still being taught the basic skills of addition, subtraction, computation, multiplication, and division. Additionally, students are required to apply these skills to solve more rigorous mathematic problems.