

## **Mini Indiana Common Core State Standards Workshop**

### **Project Plan-Mini Common Core State Standards Informative Session**

#### **Assessment of Needs**

Currently 75% of Indiana Common Core State Standard workshops (CCSS) that are being held at the Northwest Indiana Educational Service Center (NWIESC) are filling to capacity. When 246 educators were surveyed, the majority of them expressed interest in the following CCSS topics. The results are as follows: 56% need help in transitioning to the CCSS, 33% need help with embedding the Common Core Literacy Standards for Science, Social Studies, and Technical Subjects, 48% needed help with writing skills, 36% wanted information on rigorous vocabulary, and 27% wanted help in embedding the mathematical standards. Administrators comprised of Superintendents, Assistant Superintendent, and Curriculum Coordinators express, through one-on-one conversations and through emails, that their teachers need more information on the CCSS. The administrators at the district building receive more information than teachers when it comes to the Indiana Common Core, but that information does not travel down to the teacher level in the school building due to time limitation and the amount of information to communicate. A definite gap exists between the administrators and the teachers and the amount of information that is known about the CCSS.

#### **Target Audience**

The target population for this instruction will be teachers in grades K-12. Teachers are the ones that will have full implementation the CCSS in the year 2014-2015. So, a need exists to provide teachers with very basic information on Indiana Common Core Standards now.

#### **Project Objectives**

Resources, activities, and task items used to help with the CCSS will be posted on a website so teachers can obtain them at any time. To present a mini workshop to K-12 educators to emphasize the following key points in transitioning to the Common Core State Standards:

- Learn the basics of the Indiana Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics
- Find resources for implementing the Indiana's Common Core
- Learn how to use transitional materials to the Indiana Common Core
- Define literate individual
- Explain major shifts for English Language Arts (ELA) in CCSS
- Recognize and know the structure of the ELA standards
- Recognize and know the College & Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading
- Recognize and read Lexile measures and compare text measure from current to 2012 CCSS
- Prepare for the prose constructed response item
- Define disciplinary literacy
- Explain major math shifts in CCSS
- Read and explain the table of K-8 Domains for mathematics

- Locate sample items for PARCC mathematics and English Language Arts

### **Identification of Tasks**

The goal of the participants is to learn the basics of the Indiana Common Core State Standards such as what they are, what is expected of students, how to prepare students for the Indiana Common Core State Standards, and how to find and use resources.

### **Instructional Approach**

An informative one and a half hour workshop will be developed to provide professional development to K-12 teachers on the very basics of the Indiana Common Core Standards. The participants will be shown a PowerPoint that explains why we have the Common Core State Standards, and how to transition from the Indiana Standards to the Common Core Standards. Open discussion will be encouraged. Example test items will be shown for various grade levels. Participants will be given a copy of the PowerPoint and will be able to take notes during the presentation. Participants will also be given a sheet of resources such as websites that contain more information on the Indiana Common Core State Standards. These resources will also be posted on the Northwest Indiana Educational Service Center website at [www.nwiesc.k12.in.us](http://www.nwiesc.k12.in.us) for participants to access anytime during this transitional period for Indiana standards to the Indiana Common Core Standards.

### **Description of Implementation**

The Indiana Common Core Mini-Workshop was offered for teachers at a local school district in a professional development room. The set-up of the room included rectangular tables with 2 chairs at each table. A total of 17 educators showed: 14 classroom teachers, and 3 administrators. Even though this workshop was directed towards teachers, a few administrators also need information regarding the Indiana Common Core State Standards. I used a PowerPoint presentation, a flipchart, and markers to present the information. The educators received a copy of the PowerPoints with 2 slides, printed, per page.

First of all I found that teachers are surprised by the text complexity across all grade levels. The information for the workshop went well, but the flow could be improved because it felt rushed. It would have been better to have more time allotted. Instead of the workshop being an hour and half it should be more a 2-2.5 hours. Also, participants liked to be show how to navigate to the links on the Indiana Department of Education and PARCC to look for tools and resources relating to the Common Core. Many found the presentation beneficial. Most of them relayed that they would like this workshop to be more detailed and to have separate groups for English Language Arts and Mathematics and then to break it down further by grade level. With that being stated, I would break the workshop down by subject matter and grade levels such as K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Also if more workshops were developed, they could be offered, for example, for the anchor standards: reading, writing, speaking & listening, and language. In addition, most participants want more detailed information regarding the assessment. However that is difficult to do since it's not completed. I further explained that it would be better to develop great instructional strategies and then no matter what the assessment looks like the students would achieve. An evaluation of participants has been attached.

I worked with a SME who won the past Presidential Award for Excellence in Secondary Math Teaching for math resources. Also I received information from the Wisconsin CESA. In the future, I plan to work with the math and English language art experts at the Indiana Department of Education. The experts were very helpful and more than willing to share information. I found that the experts are very proud of the work they do. They actually can give you more information than you really need, so it's important streamline that information.

Overall, I thought it went well and did deliver basic information regarding the CCSS. I do believe the participants are "hungry" for more detailed information.

Also, resources for the educators are addressed within the PowerPoints. Common Core resources have been posted at [www.nwiesc.k12.in.us](http://www.nwiesc.k12.in.us), click on "staff development", and scroll down to "CCSS Math." Under the "CCSS Math", you will find the following topics: Research the PARCC and Smarter Balanced Consortia, PARCC Samples for Math, CC Sample Curriculum Framework, CC Math Concepts, Skills & Procedure, CCSS in Formatting, CC Math Reasoning, CC Math Modeling.

### **Identification of relevant competencies**

1. Communicate Knowledge - The graduate will communicate effectively in oral and written formats including the ability to communicate content from his/her discipline through the design and delivery of effective teaching/learning activities that integrate content and pedagogy, adapt instruction and support services to the needs of diverse learners, and assess appropriately learning outcomes.

\*Instruction adapted during the workshop by having discussion regarding the CCSS. Also, further workshops will be planned that are more detailed. Evaluations were given.

2. Participate Actively in Their Profession - The graduate will identify communities of practice within his/her discipline and participate within these communities.

\*Working with the math and the CCSS experts are part of the community for this project.

### Learning Design and Technology Specific Competencies

1. Apply Instructional Design Principles - The graduate will analyze learning problems and, when appropriate, design, develop, implement, and evaluate appropriate instructional solutions to those problems.

a. Identify and analyze learning and performance problems

b. Design plans and develop instructional interventions using appropriate strategies and techniques

c. Implement and evaluate instructional interventions

\*analyzing and information was provided prior to workshop.

\*plan and materials were developed.

2. Apply Computer- and Web-Based Technologies and Media to the Solution of Instructional Problems

Actually I only touched upon this competency since I just utilized technology to deliver the presentation. I emailed information and the evaluation. I summarized the results of the evaluation via technology. However, there is more to learn under this competency.

**Attachments**

Instructor PowerPoint Transition to the Indiana Common Core State Standards Overview

Instructor PowerPoint PARCC Assessment Items

Evaluation