

Bring Back Local Control to Arizona

Stop Common Core



Are the renamed Arizona College and Career Ready Standards still the Common Core Standards? Are these “National Standards?”

Problem: Arizona College and Career Ready Standards (ACCRS) are still the Common Core Standards which were lead and created by Washington, D.C. organizations (national organizations).

1. Governor Jan Brewer renamed the Common Core Standards in AZ through an Executive Order 2013-08 on September 20, 2013 to the “AZ College and Career Ready Standards” (http://azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_092013_EducationEO.pdf). Superintendent of Public Instruction, John Huppenthal, stated, “the standards would still be implemented and that nothing would change in the Arizona classrooms.” (“Huppenthal: Arizona should rename Common Core,” <http://azcapitoltimes.com/news/2013/09/19/arizona-education-superintendent-john-huppenthal-says-arizona-should-rename-common-core/>)

2. **Arizona adopted the Common Core standards on June 20, 2010 verbatim and only added 15% to these standards.** Governor Brewer and former Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Horne, signed a “Memorandum of Agreement,” which adopted Common Core, as part of our Race-to-the-Top (RTTT) Phase 1 application and to receive a waiver for the No-Child-Left-Behind (NCLB) national student achievement requirements our state was not meeting. (http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_011910_RaceToTheTopApplication.pdf and <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/phase1-applications/appendixes/arizona.pdf>)

3. The Common Core standards were developed through a joint initiative through the National Governor’s Association (NGA) and the Council for State School Officers (CCSSO) which partnered with Achieve, ACT and the College Board. These are all Washington, D.C. based (national) organizations! **Achieve, Inc. has been working on national standards for 30 years and “developed the method of delivery in 2001 for the Partnership for Assessment for College and Careers from the United Kingdom’s Tony Blair.”** (“Common Core Implementation Workbook,” March 2012, <http://www.achieve.org/ImplementingCommonCore>)

4. One of the Common Core Math Standards writer’s was Dr. William McCallum, a professor from the University of Arizona. Dr. McCallum also happens to be on the “Board and Advisors” team of Achieve, Inc. (<http://www.achievethecore.org/about-us>). Dr. Craig Barrett, former CEO of Intel Corporation, is also the “Chair of the Board of Directors” of Achieve, Inc. (<http://www.achieve.org/our-board-directors>) **Just because these folks live in Arizona does not mean the Common Core Standards are “state-led.” These are national standards developed by “think tanks” in Washington, D.C.!**


Solution: Bring back local control over standards and assessments. Support legislation that will allow school districts and charter schools to determine their own standards and assessments (SB1388, SB1395, SB1396, SB1310, SB1095, and HB2316- <http://azleg.gov/>). Support Diane Douglas in 2014 for the Superintendent of Public Instruction office. She supports local control over standards and assessments. (<http://www.dianedouglas.com/>)

