



MATH DEPARTMENT

Developing a deep understanding and appreciation for meaningful K-12 mathematics

The [Common Core State Standards](#) initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the [National Governor's Association](#) and the [Council of Chief State School Officers](#). Wisconsin and Milwaukee Public Schools became involved in the initiative in June 2010, when the state adopted the Common Core State Standards in [mathematics](#) and [English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects](#). The Core Standards

- are aligned with college and career expectations;
- are clear, understandable, and consistent;
- include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills;
- are informed by other top-performing countries so that all students are prepared to succeed in a global economy and society;
- are evidence-based ([CCSSO & NGA, 2010](#)).

The Common Core State Standards in Mathematics are a breakthrough in focus, coherence, and rigor, and MPS mathematics instruction is aligned to the CCSS. The standards allow students to become progressively more proficient in understanding and using mathematics. The Common Core State Standards for mathematics include two types of standards: one for [mathematical practice](#) (how students apply and extend mathematics principles) and one for [mathematical content](#) (what students know about mathematics). The Common Core Standards focus on core conceptual understandings and procedures starting in the early grades and building through high school, thus enabling teachers to take the time needed to teach concepts and procedures preparing students for college and career.

To learn more, visit frequently asked questions about the Common Core <http://www.corestandards.org/about-the-standards/frequently-asked-questions/> and visit the National PTA website <http://www.pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583> to view and share the *Parents' Guides to Student Success*. These materials were developed by teachers, parents, and education experts.