Orange Unified School District Preparing Students to Compete in the Global Economy





International Benchmarking

Printer-friendly version

To be competitive in the 21st century, American students must have the knowledge and skills to succeed in college and in the knowledge-based economy. Today, students are no longer just competing with their peers from other states but with students from across the globe.



What is International Benchmarking?

In education, international benchmarking typically refers to analyzing highperforming education systems and identifying ways to improve our own systems
based on those findings. One of the main ways to identify high-performing
education systems is through international assessments, particularly the
Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and Trends in
International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). Consistent highperformers include countries like Singapore, Finland, Korea, Canada and Japan.
International benchmarking is important from a national perspective to ensure our
long-term economic competitiveness. Many feel it is necessary for American
students to be held to the same academic expectations as students in other
countries. The successes of other nations can provide potential guidance for
decision-making in the United States.



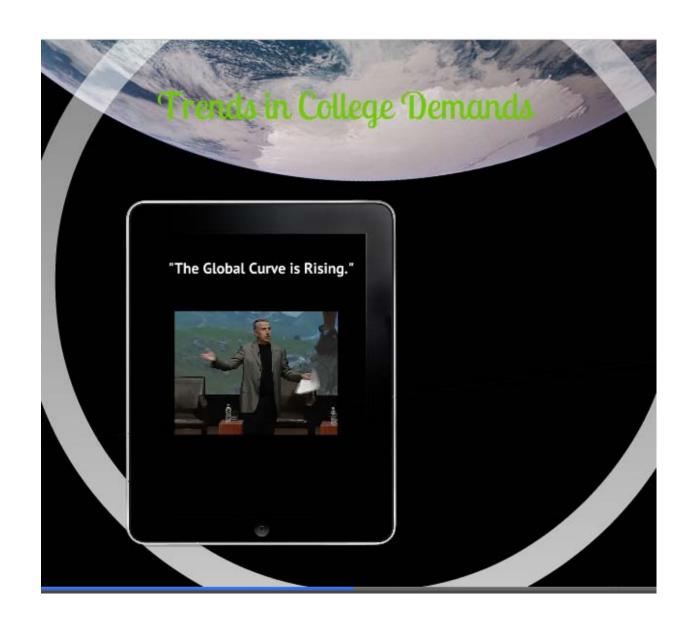
Mission Statement

The Common Core State Standards provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers. With American students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to compete successfully in the global economy.

Orange Unified School District

"The Orange Unified School District, being committed to planning for continual improvement, will offer a learning environment of excellence, with high expectations, to provide each student with the opportunity to be able to compete in the global economy."

- How does the Mission of the Orange Unified School district align to the CCSS expectations?
- How does the Mission of OUSD align with the global trends in education?



How does Common Core "Shift" to meet college and career demands?

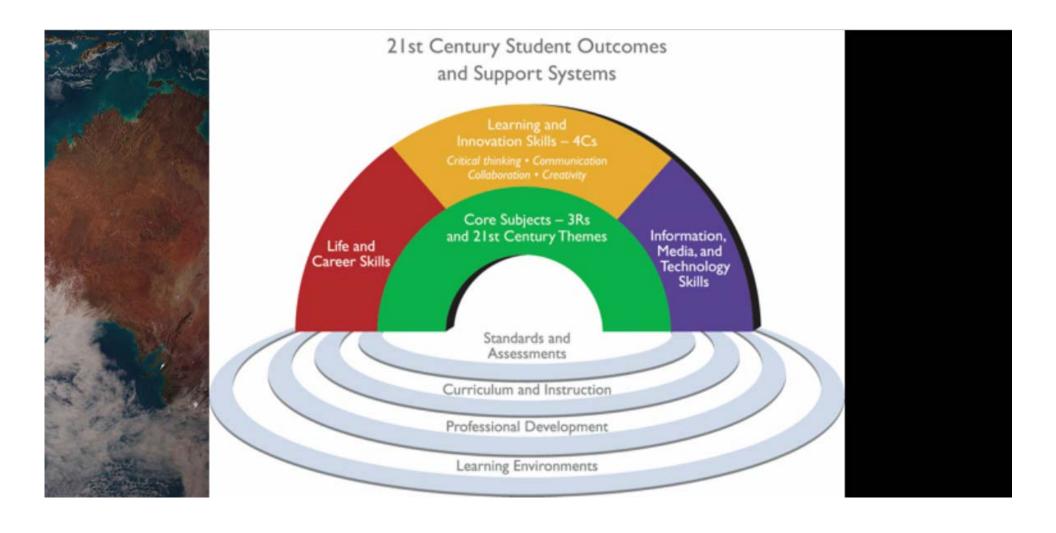
Shifts in ELA, Science, History

- Building knowledge through content rich nonfiction
- Reading, writing, and speaking grounded in evidence from both literary and informational texts
- Regular practice with complex text and its academic language

Shifts in Mathematics

- Focus Focus strongly where the standards focus
- Coherence Think across grades, and link to major topics
- Rigor In major topics, pursue conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, and application









NEWS RELEASE

TOM TORLAKSON

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Release: #13-33 March 11, 2013 Contact: Tina Jung

E-mail: communications@cde.ca.gov

Phone: 916-319-0818

State Schools Chief Tom Torlakson Announces California Joins National Partnership to Teach Students 21st Century Skills

Effort to Help California Prepare Students to Meet Common Core Standards and Career Readiness Standards

SACRAMENTO—State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced today that the California Department of Education has joined the national Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21) [2] network of 18 states, designed to teach every student real-world skills to meet the needs of a competitive global economy.

"California is part of a growing national movement to teach students the critical thinking and problem-solving skills they need for college and careers," said Torlakson. "Forging a partnership with P21 provides California with additional tools and resources to implement the Common Core State Standards and our newly revised Career Technical Education Standards. This partnership underscores our commitment to prepare every student for the challenges of a changing world."

P21 is a national organization based in Washington, D.C. and a catalyst in the 21st Century Skills Movement. P21 works with education leaders, the business community, and state and federal policymakers to ensure that the U.S. education system equips students with rigorous content knowledge and the skills they need for college, career, and citizenship.

Member states include Arizona, California, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, South Carolina, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. P21 and its members provide valuable tools and resources for educators, policymakers, parents, and communities. These tools and resources include information, publications, research, networking, and advocacy efforts.

"We are thrilled to add California to our cadre of leadership states that are working hard to implement 21st century learning," said Dr. Steven Paine, President of P21. "As a former State Superintendent, I am committed to supporting the hard work of 21st century skills implementation and congratulate Superintendent Torlakson on taking a bold and thoughtful approach to ensuring students in California graduate ready for the challenges of college, careers, and citizenship."

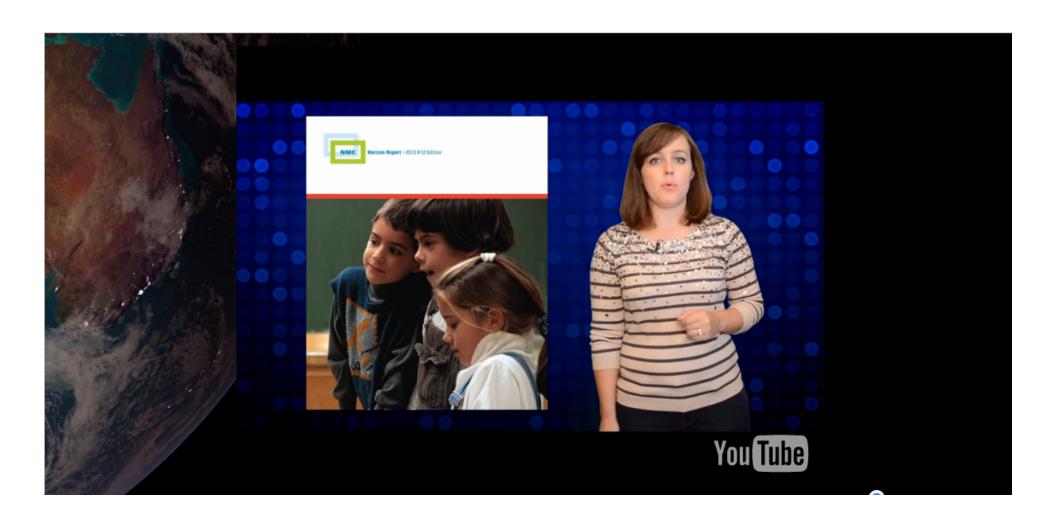
P21 focuses on getting every student ready for an increasingly competitive economy that demands innovation. P21 strives to teach all students what it calls "21st century readiness" skills by integrating the "4Cs" into all academic core content areas and classes. The 4Cs stand for, (1) critical thinking and problem solving, (2) communication, (3) collaboration, and (4) creativity and innovation. California's updated Career Technical Education Standards also reflect the "4Cs" by addressing "Career Readiness Practices" that will help schools prepare all students for careers as well as higher education.

Nationwide, 40 million of the 50 million new jobs being created over the next decade will require at least two years of additional education or training beyond high school. That means in today's knowledge-based economy, college or other postsecondary study have become the price of admission to the job market. In order to meet that need, Torlakson's goal is to teach students 21st century problem-solving and critical thinking skills as part of his A Blueprint for Great Schools initiative.

Further, California has expanded the number of career technical educational courses and has emphasized the integration of career readiness into the academic mainstream as part of Torlakson's <u>Career Readiness Campaign</u>. Students now have access to multiple career pathways in high tech, computer science, health sciences, construction, the arts, agriculture, and other industries.

Partnership with P21 provides California with additional tools and resources to further Torlakson's initiatives, as well as assist toward implementation of the <u>Common Core State Standards</u> (CCSS). The CCSS and the <u>Career Technical Education Standards</u> provide a practical way to prepare students for the challenges of a changing world by helping them learn step-by-step the real-world skills they need for college and careers. The CCSS keeps the best of the standards California currently has, replaces what's outdated, and serves as a foundation for remodeling California's education system, which include new tests that focus on improving teaching and learning.

Torlakson made his announcement this morning in Sacramento during the <u>Educating for Careers Conference</u>: <u>Career and College Ready the California Way</u> C² event. The three-day conference provides professional development for career technical education practitioners and administrators interested in career technical education





- Provide professional development to teachers with a focus on college and career readiness (student communication, critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration)
- Provide support for teachers to increase the use of performance-based assessments
- Provide a clear vision to school leaders and access to resources and professional development
- Communicate expectations to community and staff in user-friendly ways

