

National PTA

- Common Core State Standards are NOT a federal program. Common Core State Standards are the result of bipartisan collaboration and leadership from state-level government, including the National Governors Association.
- PTA is using its voice nationally to ensure equity for all children by educating and training its leaders to support the common core state standards. National PTA is making a long-term push for the implementation of the Common Core State Standards.
- National PTA is comprised of millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools.
- PTA has focused intensive mobilization efforts in twelve states through a grant initiative. Thousands of PTA members have been trained on Common Core State Standards and advocacy skills needed to provide parents with a strong voice in the education reform debate. National PTA members continue to engage entire communities, made up of teachers, parents, educators and decision-makers on Common Core Standards.
- Based on data collected after PTA presentations, a very high percentage of those in attendance are supportive of Common Core Standards.
- The goal of the common core state standards is to create a set of fewer, clearer and higher common standards that are evidence and research-based and internationally benchmarked. These common standards will set clear expectations to help parents understand what their children should be able to know and do, will ensure equity for every student – regardless of income or geography, and will help teachers know what to teach.
- We want to hold all children to high expectations and provide them with an education that will make them competitive in the national and global economy.
- We believe that all children, regardless of where they live, should be held to high academic standards and expected to perform rigorous tasks. With the adoption of Common Core, educators can share best practices, instructional materials, and worthwhile strategies with their colleagues no matter where they live.
- Student achievement is drastically low. Our nation is at a moment of crisis when it comes to preparing our students for the rigors of college and the demands of the increasingly global workplace.
- The Thomas B. Fordham Institute released a report in July 2010 entitled, “The State of State Standards – and the Common Core – in 2010.” The report found:
 - 25 states have moved backwards in the quality of their standards from 2005 to 2010.
 - 21 states’ ELA standards received D or F grades in terms of rigor and clarity.
 - 18 states’ Mathematics standards received D or F grades.
 - The vast majority of states have standards that scored lower than the Common Core.
- Students are not prepared to succeed in college and career. Four in 10 high school graduates attending college are not adequately prepared for the course load that awaits them. \$1.4 billion is spent per year on remedial education.
- America currently ranks 16th in the number of 25-34 year-olds with college degrees, out of 26 developed nations.