Governor Ron DeSantis directed that by January 1, 2020, the Commissioner of Education shall comprehensively review Florida’s Kindergarten through grade twelve academic standards and provide recommended revisions to the governor.

- A. Articulate how Florida will eliminate Common Core (Florida Standards) and ensure we return to the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic;
- B. Provide a roadmap to make Florida’s standards number one in the nation;
- C. Reflect the Commissioner’s consultation with relevant stakeholders to include parents and teachers;
- D. Deem how to increase the quality of instructional curriculum;
- E. Suggest innovative ways to streamline testing;
- F. Identify opportunities to equip high school graduates with sufficient knowledge of America’s civics, particularly the principles reflected in the United States Constitution, so as to be capable of discharging the responsibilities associated with American citizenship; and
- G. Outline a pathway for Florida to be the most literate state in the nation.
WHAT ARE THE STANDARDS?

The standards are student-centered expectations from which all curriculum, instruction and assessments are based. The standards are what the state has revised.

**CURRICULUM**

**HOW ARE THE STANDARDS INCORPORATED INTO THE CLASSROOM?**

Sometimes confused with “standards,” curriculum is the means or the instructional material by which the standards are taught.

**INSTRUCTION**

**HOW IS INSTRUCTION A PART OF THE STANDARDS?**

Instruction is the teacher’s delivery and strategies used to implement the curriculum and standards.

**ASSESSMENT**

**HOW ARE ASSESSMENTS RELATED TO THE STANDARDS?**

Assessments provide feedback to teachers, parents and students on a student’s level of mastery of the standards.
HISTORY OF STATEWIDE STUDENT STANDARDS IN FLORIDA

1996: SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS
2005-2007: NEXT GENERATION SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS
2010: NEXT GENERATION SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & MATH (COMMON CORE)
2014: FLORIDA STANDARDS IN ELA & MATH
2020: REVIEW
February through November 2019

- Reviews of current standards & two rounds of publicly available draft standards
- Combined years of experience of consulting teacher experts
- Virtual & 11 in-person meetings with FL expert groups
- More than 80 FL-based teacher and stakeholder groups participated in reviews
- Public meetings across Florida to collect feedback
KEY DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN CURRENT FLORIDA STANDARDS AND PROPOSED B.E.S.T. STANDARDS

- Eliminated Common Core
- Content-Rich
- Back-to-basics building a foundation at early grades
- Understandable for teachers, parents and students
- Created by Florida experts including 80+ FL-based teacher & stakeholder groups
- Flexibility for teachers with a focus on great content
- Improves rigor across all grades
- Developmentally appropriate course content
- Actionable solutions for the reduction of testing
- Concise standards to set clear expectations for students, teachers and parents
- Clear expectations for progression year to year through great course alignment
- First in nation with civics booklist in ELA standards
THE B.E.S.T. ELA STANDARDS

Top 9 Features

- First in nation with integrated booklist across all grades
- Framing learning around classic literature and primary source materials
- Students will learn from every major literary period
- Civic literacy embedded in every grade
- Moves use of rhetoric and debate from 9th to 6th grade
- Benchmarks specifically for secondary students reading below grade level
- Consistent vocabulary so parents and teachers know what's being asked of students
- Guides teachers and parents with clarifications
- Includes appendix and full glossary to help teachers and parents improve student fluency and understanding
THE B.E.S.T. MATH STANDARDS

Top 9 Features

+ Ends "Confusing Math" that was a roadblock for parents to help their students at home
+ Flexibility given to students to show their unique method for problem-solving
+ Focus on correct ANSWER, not the method
+ Balanced emphasis on skills vs. concepts will help struggling students catch up
+ Includes real-world context to make math more valuable to overall education
+ Financial Literacy added throughout high school
+ Moves mastery of basic whole number arithmetic from 6th to 5th grade
+ Full glossary to give teachers and parents a comprehensive understanding
+ Clearer indications of how different topics connect within and from grade to grade
NEXT STEPS

☐ State Board of Education adoption of B.E.S.T. Standards for ELA and Math
☐ State Board of Education adoption of revised course descriptions and course code directory
  • Two rules coming to April 2020 meeting
☐ Provide B.E.S.T. professional development
  • In Governor’s Budget Recommendations
☐ Alignment of Instructional Materials
☐ Alignment of Assessments
## Most Aggressive Transition Timeline in Florida’s History

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*Recommended since current statewide assessments still in place, but this is a district decision.
Key Milestones for Assessment Alignment to B.E.S.T. Standards

☐ Item development aligned to the B.E.S.T. Standards is expected to begin later this year

☐ Assessments aligned to the B.E.S.T. Standards are expected to first be administered in Spring 2023

☐ To emphasize the necessary focus on reading mastery, the Grade 3 statewide, standardized ELA assessment will become 100% focused on reading in Spring 2023
5 Big Assessment Wins for Students, Parents and Teachers

Reducing the actual time students and teachers spend on state tests and getting results

Reducing unnecessary, duplicative testing

Replacing state tests with SAT or ACT - tests that are valued by parents and students

Better aligning state tests, via SAT or ACT, to college readiness

Requiring that all high school students take the Florida Civic Literacy Test