



Action Learning Systems, Inc.

# Leading in the Common Core Era

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# Three Core Beliefs

## High Performing Schools and Districts Believe:

1

**All students  
can learn**  
and master the Common  
Core State Standards.

2

**Success**  
on the Common Core  
State Standards  
**breeds success.**

3

**We control the  
conditions of success**  
in implementing the Common  
Core State Standards.

# What conditions do WE control?

**The Focus Principle** Focus on what students should know and be able to do successfully. The focus of a school includes clearly defined performance standards across the disciplines and through the grade levels.

**The Alignment Principle** Align all programs, practices, procedures, and policies to what we want ALL students to know and be able to do.

**The Expectations Principle** Expectations are high for ALL stakeholders (students, teachers, administrators, staff, and parents). What we expect, align, and allocate time to is “what we will get.”

**The Opportunity Principle** Opportunity for ALL stakeholders (students, teachers, administrators, staff, and parents) at their highest potential is ensured by schools and districts that provide increased time, duration, frequency, and access to research-based strategies known to increase achievement.

# Common Core Standards Overview

## Goals

- Align with best evidence on college and career readiness expectations: rigorous, research-based, and designed to prepare every student for success in college and the workforce
- Build on the best standards work of the states
- Benchmark the standards internationally to ensure that our students are able to compete with students around the globe

## Key Design Considerations

- Design based on the notion of “fewer, higher, clearer”
- Grade levels based on “Learning Progressions” that “staircase” knowledge and skills
- Assessments aligned in complexity with performance tasks and selected choice
- Substantial changes in classroom practice implied

# Using Direct Interactive Instruction to Maximize Academic Learning Time

