



CABL Statement on Common Core Compromise

May 13, 2015

The opponents of Common Core wanted two primary things out of this legislative session. One was to dismantle our current high academic standards and go back to our old inferior standards. The other was to eliminate tests that were aligned to Common Core.

With this compromise the standards are preserved and there will be a test next year that includes PARCC questions and remains fully-aligned to Common Core.

There has been some rhetoric that under this compromise a new process is begun to develop a new set of academic standards for Louisiana and replace our current Common Core standards. That view is not accurate.

BESE has already established a process to review our current standards and make adjustments if needed. It includes Louisiana educators with grade-level content expertise and experts from Louisiana higher education who we believe will make quality contributions to this effort. This process does not throw out our current standards, but allows for a review of the standards to see if adjustments are needed, a standard could be strengthened or an additional standard might be appropriate. This is the same process BESE is already implementing.

Again, this does not create a new set of standards. It maintains a process that allows us to build upon the quality of our current standards if needed. If for whatever reason those changes are rejected by any party, it simply means that we will continue with our current Common Core standards unchanged.

For teachers, students and parents this provides a level of stability they have not seen in recent years. It ensures that next year we will again be teaching to the same Common Core standards we have used since at least 2013. It also strengthens our ability to make improvements in those standards if appropriate, knowing that Common Core remains the foundation on which we will build.

With this compromise, the efforts of those who sought to take our high-quality Common Core standards out of Louisiana classrooms have failed, testing will continue and the path forward for the next year becomes much more clear for our children, the ones for whom this matters the most.