



Giving thanks – for you

Ready or not, November is here! We hope that this month finds you growing, learning, and laughing with your students and fellow educators. With Thanksgiving only a couple of weeks away, we at Student Achievement Partners are grateful for the opportunities we have to engage with all of you, our Core Advocate network. We know how hard you work each and every day to improve your craft and positively affect student outcomes. So on the fourth Thursday of this month, and every day between now and then, we say thank you, Core Advocates!

Jump to November 2016 Highlights

[The Aligned blog's new look!](#)

[Register now for the December webinar on In Common resources for writing](#)

[Meet the Captains](#)

Resources

Classroom Connections

Coherence Map Updated

The newly updated [Coherence Map](#) now includes connections between K–8 and high school math standards as well as PARCC and Smarter Balanced released assessment items for selected standards. Check it out! We are interested in how you are using the [Coherence Map](#) in your own professional learning setting. Please use the [Instructional Advocacy Action Form](#) to share how you have spread the word about this great tool.

Item	Price
A box of 20 markers	\$5
A box of 100 markers	\$8

The Right Tool for the Job

If you're an ELA/literacy teacher, check out the recent Thomas B. Fordham Institute's *The Right Tool for the Job* blog series which provides reviews of new tools for the ELA classroom. Achieve the Core is profiled as a [one stop shop](#) for standards-aligned resources. If you're thinking about incorporating text sets into your instruction, make sure to review the comparison of different text set providers (including Achieve the Core) in the *Which Text Set Approach Is Right for You?* blog post.

The Aligned Blog's New Look

Achieve the Core's blog, [Aligned](#), has a new look! Quickly find the content that's most important to you by:

- Exploring the new categories
- Sorting by ELA/literacy or math
- Choosing recommended content

Aligned has articles about the connection between materials and instruction, selecting new materials, standards-aligned content and assessments, and much more. Visit [the blog](#) and sign up for updates!

Your Own Learning

Webinars

December Webinar

On December 7th, the monthly Core Advocate Webinar will feature the [In Common](#) writing resources. This set of K-12 annotated student writing samples illustrate the integration of content understanding and writing in the three types of writing expected by the Common Core State Standards:

- Argument/opinion writing
- Informative/explanatory writing
- Narrative writing

Register [here](#) for the webinar, then join us at 7:00 pm EST to learn how this tool can support you in developing proficient writers.

[Register](#)

In the News

New York Standards Revision – Public Comment

New York Educators: The deadline to submit comments on the proposed revisions to the New York State Standards has been extended to **November 14**. Please take a moment to review the changes and share your thoughts via the [public comment portal](#). You can read a helpful overview of the changes to the ELA standards on Achieve the Core [here](#).

Memorization in Math

A new analysis by the OECD of PISA data shows that, while students around the world use memorization to some degree as they learn math, students from the highest performing countries rely on it the least. The study also looked at the relationship between memorization and math ability and found that students who reported using memorization alone when studying math were able to be successful with easier problems, but stumbled with more complex problems. Read more [here](#).

Bulletin Board

Math Mini-Courses

We are excited that the first math mini-course, on the [IMET](#), has started! Our next 6-week course will start at the end of January. It will focus on the [Math Instructional Practice Guide](#) (IPG). If you are interested in applying for the course, contact [Jennie Beltramini](#).

Achieve the Core on Pinterest

Are you an expert Pinterest user? Do you have a sixth sense when it comes to finding high-quality materials amidst the sea of Pinterest education content? We want you! We're looking for an experienced Pinterest user to share tips and strategies about how to find high-quality, Standards-aligned education content on Pinterest. Research shows that Pinterest is the #2 place teachers go to find classroom materials, but it can be overwhelming to know how to get started, and how to sort through all of the education resources being promoted. If you have strategies that can help and you're interested in writing a short blog post on the topic for Achieve the Core's blog [Aligned](#), please email [Claire Rivero](#).

Upcoming Events

January 7-8
Connecticut Core Advocate Catalysts
Convening
Hartford, CT

January 21-22
Ohio Core Advocate Catalysts Convening
Columbus, OH



Showcasing Our Network

Question of the Month

This Month

What resources do you find helpful in supporting writing instruction?

Submit for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card

October's Question

Question: How do your students inspire you?

Winning Answer: "My students inspire me with their curiosity! They ask great questions that create new opportunities to think about and research."

-Jodi Baker

September's Question

Question: What is your goal for the new school year?

Winning Answer: "My goal for the new school year is to keep moving forward and to keep putting my students at the front of every decision I make. They ARE the most important!"

-Xanthy Karamanos

Other Noteworthy Answers:

"My students enter my classroom with a smile and a positive attitude that inspires me to give them my best. I appreciate their willingness to try new things!"

-Monica Cross

"My goal for the new school year is: to engage teachers into the Shifts of the Standards in mathematics and provide resources and tools that help positively impact student learning... I want to spread the knowledge that math matters and we want it to make sense for our students!"

-Erin Chavez

Showcasing Instructional Advocacy

Meet the New York State Captain

Carolyn Glicklich is a learning specialist for grades 4 - 7 at the Chapin School in Manhattan. Prior to this, she was a third grade teacher at Harlem Link Charter School for three years, as well as a special education teacher and a special education coordinator for 6 years in a charter school in the Boston area. Carolyn is extremely passionate about the Standards and the instructional shifts and how they support all learners. Outside of teaching and her work with SAP, she is also a lead reviewer for EdReports and an editor for the Achievement Network.



Meet the Connecticut State Captain Kevin began his career at Capitol Region Education Council, first at the Metropolitan Learning Center as a high school math teacher and then as the district's Secondary Mathematics Curriculum Specialist. More recently, Kevin has served as a Visiting Professor at Sacred Heart University and Adjunct Faculty member at the University of Connecticut's Neag School of Education teaching various courses in education. Kevin's passion for teaching and learning has even brought him as far as Rwanda, where he currently works with the Rwanda Teacher Education Program via the University of Hartford to help design and implement a national teacher training program.



Teacher to Teacher

Sandra Davis and Rita Hayes were recently spotted presenting *Catching Kids Up on the Fraction Progression* at the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference in Orlando. Great job ladies!

Share what you're doing

Social Media Spotlight



Dan Alderson @alderson_dan · Nov 5

Our vocabulary will peak at gr. 5/6 based solely on what we hear. We get the rest from reading. -D. Liben [#coreadvocates](#) [#wacoreadvocates](#)





Megan Cook @MathMommyJC · Nov 2

Oh my goodness! Assessments in our curriculum needed revamping before! Now I am excited for starting! [#coreadvocates](#)

Shift 1: Focus

Traditional Summative Assessment (Grade 6)		CCSS-Aligned Summative Assessment (Grade 6)	
Domain	% of Points	Domain (with Clusters)	% of Pts
Ratios and Proportional Relationships	20	Ratios and Proportional Relationships (6.RP.A: 18 pts)	18
The Number System	20	The Number System (6.NS.A: 12 pts, 6.NS.B: 7 pts, 6.NS.C: 10 pts)	27
Expressions and Equations	20	Expressions and Equations (6.EE.A: 13 pts, 6.EE.B: 15 pts, 6.EE.C: 10 pts)	38
Geometry	20	Geometry (6.G.A: 7 pts)	7
Statistics and Probability	20	Statistics and Probability (6.SP.A: 4 pts, 6.SP.B: 4 pts)	8
Total	100	Total	100
% on Major Work	53	% on Major Work	78

*Green denotes Major Clusters

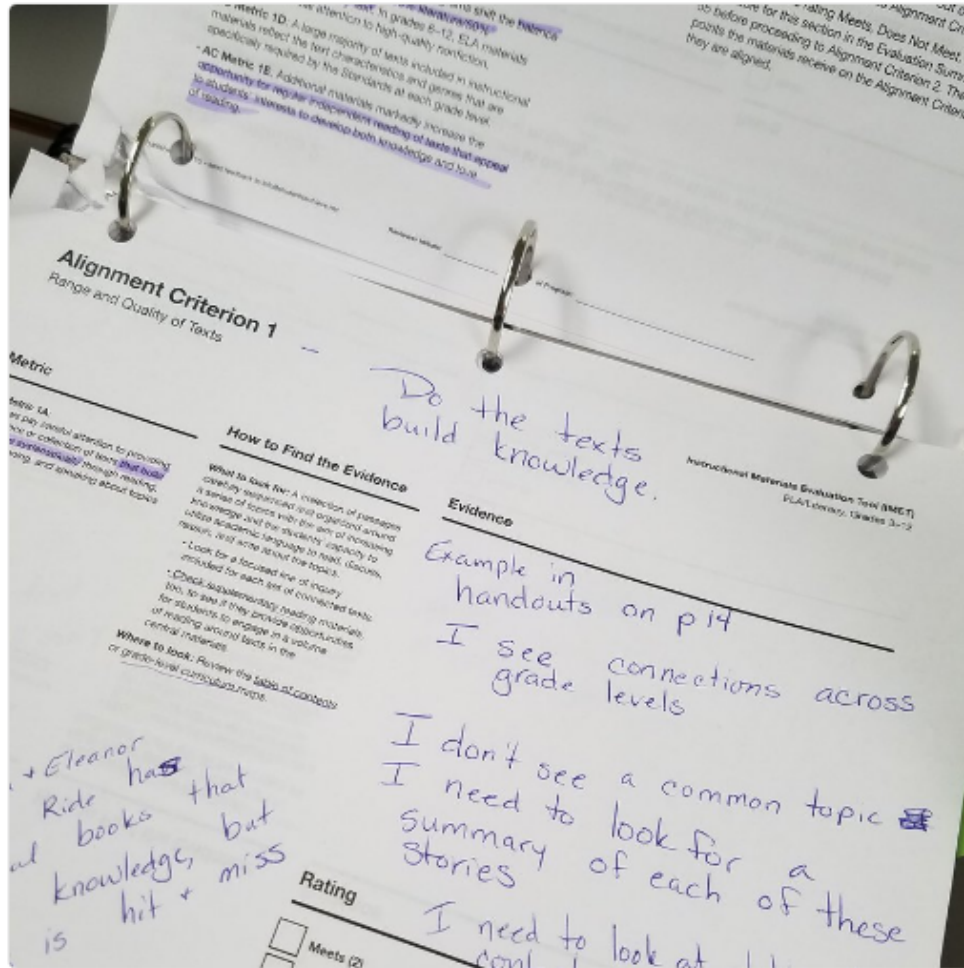
Source: Student Achievement Partners. For illustrative purposes only.

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casey monahan @casey_monahan · Oct 27

IMET asks teachers to ask "do the texts build knowledge?" #shifts
#coreadvocates @wvschools



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Stephanie Cardoso @CardosoTeaches · Oct 26

Sent S a survey on interests in ELA/Math. Got this response. Text sets rock.
@achievethecore #coreadvocates @SteveFigurelli @NatalieFranzi

What is one activity you wish there was more time to work on/complete?

I know we just started using text sets, but I wish there was more time for it because it is amazing and you can learn so much from this. Thank you Mrs. Cardoso for adding this to the menu.

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New York, New York 10003
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