



Fun in the Sun!

Happy June! Although not all districts are out for summer yet, we hope all Core Advocates are enjoying the warm weather and sunshine as you wrap up your school year and begin to think about relaxation, recharging, and down time with friends and family. Summer break is also a great time to reflect on the past school year and set goals for professional learning for the upcoming year. In this month's newsletter, you'll find interesting and helpful information including a summer reading challenge, summer professional learning opportunities, links to the "Developing Fluency" workshop from *Impact Through Instructional Advocacy*, our May 2017 Core Advocates conference, and news of Instructional Advocacy. Enjoy the newsletter, and enjoy your summer!

Jump to June 2017 Highlights

[Using the Coherence Map](#)

[Summer Professional Learning Opportunities](#)

[Showcasing Instructional Advocacy](#)

Resources

Classroom Connections

Impact Through Instructional Advocacy: A Balanced Approach to Developing and Assessing Math Fact Fluency

Core Advocates Kristi Gettelman and Dani Palm shared valuable information at the May Core Advocates convening about developing and assessing fluency. They presented a three pronged approach including purposeful instruction, consistent practice opportunities, and



balanced assessment. Although the session had a focus on grades K–2, the information is relevant beyond the primary grades. Weren't able to attend their session? No problem. Access the session materials [here](#).

Using the Coherence Map

Have you heard about this great tool called the Coherence Map? Two Kentucky teachers have written a detailed [blog post](#) introducing the [Coherence Map](#) and explaining how it's been useful to them in their kindergarten math team. They call out two use cases in particular: identifying targeted interventions for struggling students and helping teachers understand how the work in younger grades is part of the larger pathway to algebra. The June Core Advocate Spotlight on Achieve the Core will feature this blog post!

Text Set Resource!

Do you use [Achieve the Core's text sets](#) as a resource to build your students' knowledge? The Copyright Clearance Center recently partnered with Xanedu to make low cost versions of the student facing resources. On Achieve the Core, go to ELA lessons (under Classroom Resources). When you select “Text Set Project” from the left hand side, follow the “Option to Purchase Texts” link to let someone else do the work of photocopying text excerpts– and know that they are all permissioned and ready for student use!

The Shifts in Assessment Training

As the school year winds down, are you already thinking ahead to the assessments you will use next year? Refresh yourself with [The Shifts in Assessment](#) training, and then dive deeper into [The Assessment Item Alignment Modules](#). Both trainings are available for ELA and Mathematics, and will allow you to think carefully about how to apply the Shifts to assessment questions.

Your Own Learning

Webinars

July Core Advocate Webinar

What are some resources and tools used in the past school year that have helped or changed classroom practice? Join us on Wednesday, July 5 from 7:00 – 8:00 EDT as we talk to Core Advocates and look at tools and resources they have used in their classrooms. Examine your challenges and go back to the classroom with ready to use tools. We'll also take a fun look at structures, rituals, and routines that work for Core Advocates and prepare to share some of your own! Register for this fun and interactive hour with Core Advocates!

[Register](#)

June Principal Leading the Core Webinar

If you are a school administrator or instructional coach, you won't want to miss our June Leading the Core Webinar on Wednesday, June 21 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm EDT. This month's webinar features a closer look at components four, five, and six of the [Instructional Practice Toolkit](#), a brand new set of professional learning modules that consider a 360-degree view of standards- and shifts-aligned instructional practice anchored in the [Instructional Practice Guide](#). Register here to get a closer look at these amazing tools and get a head start on your professional learning plan for the 2017-18 school year.

[Register](#)

In the News

Rigor Matters!

This [essay](#), part of a series on personalized learning, was published in The Lens, the Center on Reinventing Public Education's (CPRE) blog at the University of Washington Bothell. It raises the question of how personalization can be effectively balanced with rigor and recommends two critical strategies for success: "start with standards, not structures" and "assess and discuss rigor". They go on to recommend using the [Instructional Practice Guide](#) as, "a flexible tool that teachers and leaders could use to help keep rigor part of the conversation as they reimagine a more personalized and engaged classroom for students."



Bulletin Board

Summer Reading Challenge

We've kicked off our annual [Summer Reading Challenge](#)! This year's list represents some of the most popular topics and voices from the Aligned blog. Join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter as you complete the articles each week, or just follow [@achievethecore](#) for suggested additional readings and activities. How many will you read before Labor Day?

Join a Summer PLC

Looking for a lightweight PLC opportunity for the summer? Check out [Actively Learn's](#)

Professional Learning **opportunity**. They are running a virtual learning community for educators focusing on asking questions, building background knowledge and formative assessment.

SAP at AFT's TEACH in July

SAP will be presenting at AFT's TEACH conference in July in Washington DC! We'd love to connect with Core Advocates who will be attending! Here's where you'll find us:

Fri. 7/21 8:30AM-10:30AM, Choosing & Adapting Materials (Express Boot Camp)

Fri. 7/21 2:15PM-4:15PM and Sat. 7/22 8:30AM-10:30AM, Instructional Practice Guide (Full Boot Camp)

Fri. 7/21 2:15PM-4:15PM and Sat. 7/22 8:30AM-10:30AM, Mathematics Lesson Plan & Student Work Analysis (Full Boot Camp)



Upcoming Events

June 10-11

California Core Advocate Convening
Orange County, CA

November 7-8

Annual Principal Convening: Leading the Core
Chicago, IL

Showcasing Our Network

Question of the Month

This Month

What was a success you had during the past school year?

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

Last Month

Question: What are you planning on learning about over the summer, personally or professionally?

"I am planning on updating my Algebra 2 curriculum to apply what I learned at the Connecticut Core Advocates Convening in January. Now that I am grounded in the standards and which standards are essential and which are plus standards, the curriculum will have more focus."

–Karen Abbey

Other Noteworthy Answers:

"I will be learning about Interactive Read Alouds. Our school won a grant to provide a reading and writing camp to our rising first-third graders. Interactive Read Alouds will be a part of our curriculum. It will be exciting to see how engaged students hopefully will become in reading!"

–Dena K. Oneal

"I am working with a group of teachers from Colorado and surrounding states to lead PD on Multidigit Multiplication Strategies for many districts in the area! Tons of conceptual understanding work for teachers!"

–Sarah Smith

"I am excited to learn more about text complexity and how that can drive instructional decisions. We have been strengthening our knowledge around math standards and aspects of rigor this year, and we are excited to see how deepening our understanding of text complexity will strengthen our ELA instruction."

–Charles Miller

"I will be continuing my learning around ways in which to bring equity and grade level access to students in the classroom for math. Supporting teachers in practical ways to not only collect evidence but to act on that evidence without assuming that a whole grade level of math needs reteaching."

–Terri Gibbs–Burke

"I am learning, personally, about Canada as I will be traveling to Toronto."

–Alison Killy

Showcasing Instructional Advocacy



Impact Through Instructional Advocacy

On May 6–7 over 350 Core Advocates came together in Denver to attend SAP's annual national convening, to learn, network, and think about having an impact via instructional advocacy back home in their schools, districts, and states. Our conference theme, *Impact through Instructional Advocacy*, reflected the Core Advocate goal of educators, grounded in a firm understanding of the Shifts, owning, supporting, and promoting the resources, tools, and practices that create learning environments in which students develop college- and career- readiness. The conference included an opening panel, multiple session options for participants, Unconference sessions, as well as Ignite! talks. Check out the Core Advocate Newsletter each month for session spotlights, with links to the session materials. Even if you were not able to attend, we hope to share sessions with all Core Advocates so everyone can have an impact through instructional advocacy!

Debunking Misconceptions About State Assessments

Two Ohio Core Advocates recently wrote a [blog post](#) addressing 5 misconceptions about Ohio's state assessments. It was picked up by a local newspaper and published as an opinion piece. Check out the article, *Five misconceptions on Ohio's statewide student assessments*, which is relevant for any state with standards-aligned assessments. Does your community also have misunderstandings about assessments? Share this article with them!

Share what you're doing

Social Media Spotlight



Tina P. Monteleone

@tinamonte

Following

Discussing ELA resources/programs w David Liben & Sue Pimentel #coreadvocates @achievethecore @NJStandards #njed @salberti @NatalieFranzi



RETWEETS 4 LIKES 8



11:17 AM - 7 May 2017 from Denver, CO

Steve Figurelli, AMLE, John Fritzky and 6 others





April Pforts IDOE
@aprilpfortsiowa

Following



Application does not have to be contrived!
Real world problems can be authentic!
[@toller_bryan](#) [@achievethecore](#)
[#coreadvocates](#) [#iowamath](#)

RETWEETS 2 LIKE 1



9:39 AM - 7 May 2017

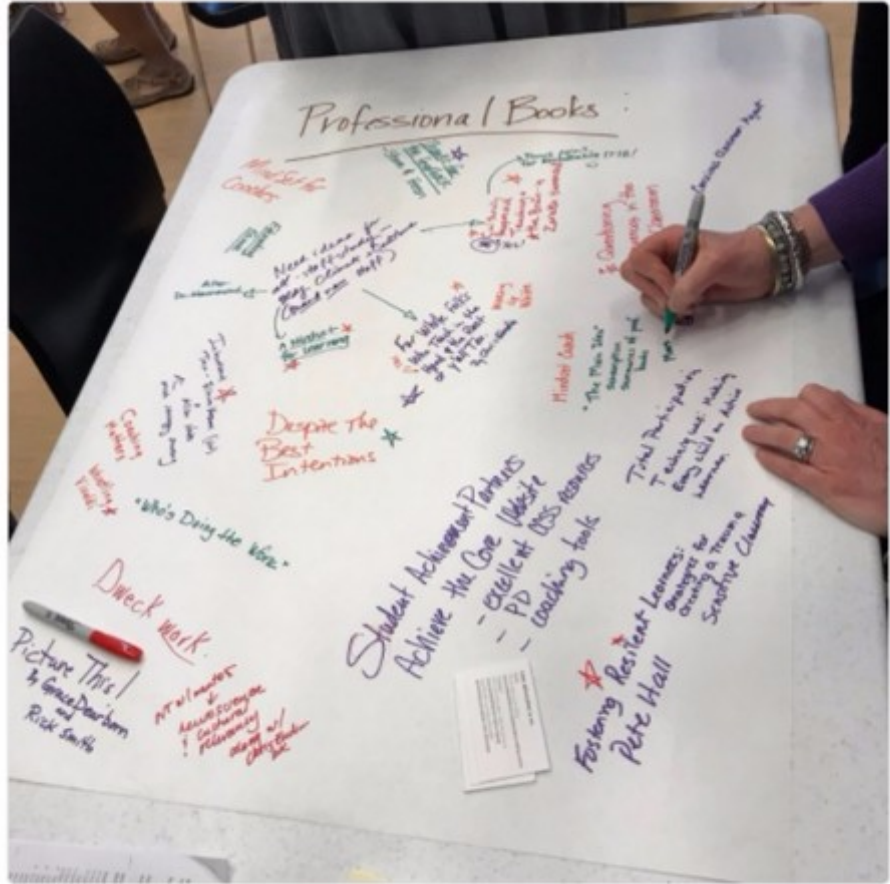




stacey gruenich
@sissylynnng



Shared Achieve the Core at local mentor/coach roundtable...several cards taken!!!!!! #coreadvocates #wacoreadvocates #spreadthework



LIKES
7



Danielle Palm
@mrspalm



Teachers must do the math to talk about the math. That is where there is power @AstridFossum #CoreAdvocates

LIKES
2



12:38 PM - 7 May 2017

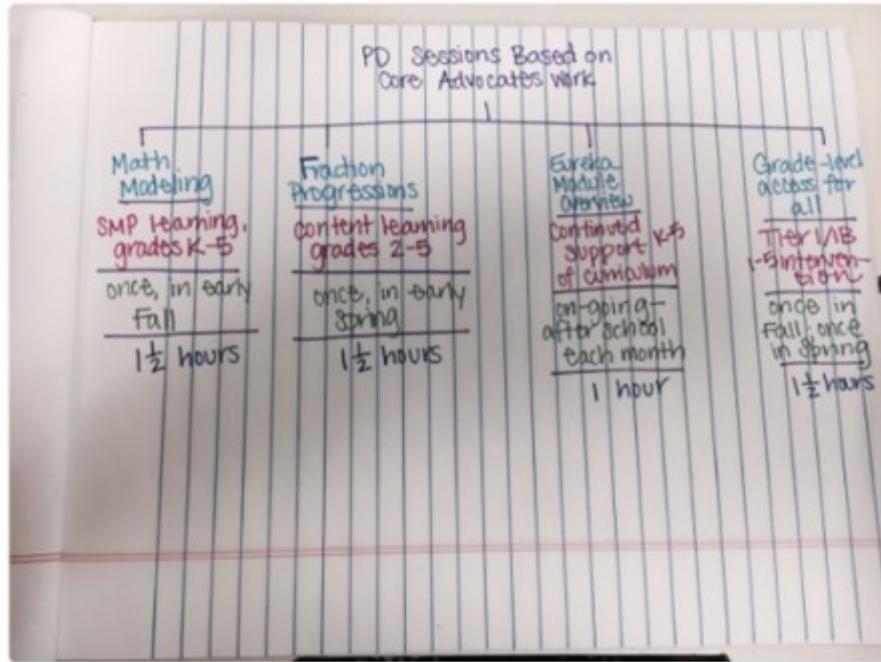




Karen Delay
@KarenDelay2

Following

Already planning how to take my learning back to my district! #Coreadvocates #thinkingmaps



RETWEET 1 LIKES 9



10:46 AM - 8 May 2017



ACHIEVE THE CORE

Assembled by Student Achievement Partners
58 East 11th Street
New York, New York 10003
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

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