



Fall Core Advocate News!

October is such a great month to be a Core Advocate. Now that you are well into the school year, you've most likely hit a groove! You know your students, you've gotten to know new colleagues, and you are beginning to work on goal setting for your students' academic growth and for your own professional learning. You are meeting the needs of students in your classrooms and schools, collaborating with colleagues around instruction, and communicating with families in your schools. We at Student Achievement Partners have tools and resources to support you, many of which are mentioned in this month's newsletter.

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Showcasing Our Network

Question of the Month

This Month

What are your go-to resources/strategies for meeting the needs of diverse learners in your classroom?

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

Last Month

Question: How do you provide support for English language learners in your classroom?

Winning Answer:

"One new thing I have incorporated this year is audio texts. Readworks has all of their articles on audio, so my EL students can listen to the text before they read it with a partner or on their own. It has really helped build language support"

–Angela Motter

Showcasing Instructional Advocacy

Instructional Advocacy Action Form Spotlight

Core Advocates from around the country are making an impact on educators and students through their instructional advocacy! We love to hear stories about the great work being done by Core Advocates in classrooms, schools, districts, states, and beyond! Core Advocates, you can share your stories by filling out the quick Instructional Advocacy Action Form survey each time you engage in work related to aligned instructional practice, materials, and assessment! In the newsletter each month, we will be highlighting a response by one of the Core Advocates. Be sure to tell us about your action for a chance to be selected and win SAP swag!

Tara Dale, an Arizona Core Advocate is the science department chair at her high school and worked with the teachers in her department on text-evidence. Tara said, *"As a Core Advocate, I take every opportunity that comes my way to teach teachers how to incorporate informational text into their classrooms, most especially my science colleagues. Of the 14 science teachers who participated in my meeting, one of them doubles as a special education teacher. He took the information back to his SPED PLC and now students' IEP goals are starting to reflect their need to use text evidence in their writing. I found out later this was the first time our SPED department had heard of text evidence. My next step is to meet with their department chair because I would like to teach the SPED teachers who double as ELA teachers how to use informational text and text evidence in their co-taught and pull-out classrooms. The remaining 13 science teachers had various responses. Some are not ready to make the change to use text as a teaching tool but there were three who took it on with a force and are now trying to incorporate it into their science classrooms when they can. This is still very much a work in progress."*

Thank you for sharing your instructional advocacy Tara!

Share your Instructional Advocacy!

Core Advocates Share Their Expertise!

Core Advocates have authored several recent posts on the Aligned blog. Check them out.

- Andrea Raines' experience [creating a feedback culture](#) in the classroom
- Susan Hitt's post on [blended learning using stations](#)
- Mary Burt' advice on [creating interdisciplinary PLCs in your school](#)

- Jeff Crayton's observations on [unfinished learning in math](#)
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Resources

Classroom Connections

Bring Hispanic Heritage Month to your classroom!

Hispanic Heritage Month is September 15 to October 15. Looking for ELA/literacy lessons to use in your classroom? Check out [Drive-In Movies](#) for grade 6 or [Elena's Serenade](#) for grade 3. Also, there are resources for teachers available from the Library of Congress, National Archives, National Gallery of Art, National Endowment for the Humanities, and more [here](#).



Complex Text in the Primary Grades

Are you looking for resources for complex texts that are appropriate for early elementary? The Read Aloud Project (RAP) lessons include text-specific questions and highlight key academic vocabulary for grades K, 1, and 2. If you haven't yet explored this resource, do so today! The [RAP page at Achieve the Core](#) now includes a link to purchase the texts at a discount.

Support for English Language Learners in the Math Classroom

Are you a math teacher who has English Language Learners in your classroom? Make sure to read the about the [Mathematical Language Routines](#) developed by the Stanford University Understanding Language Project. This paper provides guidance to mathematics teachers for recognizing and supporting students' language development processes in the context of mathematical sense making.

Supercomputer Teacher Advisor!

Have you heard of IBM Watson? For years, the supercomputer has been gradually refined so that it can provide complex analysis and information. It has beaten humans at Jeopardy, helped advise doctors, and now it's primed to support teachers. The new [Teacher Advisor with Watson](#) website allows elementary math teachers to access free, vetted, standards-aligned resources (Achieve the Core was one of the contributors), teacher instruction, and guidance through its unique teacher-focused search mechanism. Check it out today!

Your Own Learning

Webinars

Monthly Core Advocate Webinar Series

How many Core Advocate webinars have you attended? We hope you can join us on the first Wednesday of each month from 7:00–8:00 p.m. ET to learn with and from Core Advocates. The webinars are a great way to introduce your colleagues to the work of SAP and the Core Advocate Network. Invite your PLC to log on with you and spark some great conversations! Upcoming topics include *Book Baskets* (November 1st) and *Using Achieve the Core Resources to Tackle Common Math Issues* (December 6th). Register now!

[Register for the November Core Advocate Webinar!](#)

[Register for the December Core Advocate Webinar!](#)

Standards author Bill McCallum debuts new math curriculum in webinars

Heard [the buzz](#) about the new Illustrative Mathematics 6–8 Math curriculum? Learn about this free standards–aligned curriculum from the source: lead author Bill McCallum of Illustrative Mathematics will join Open Up Resources for two October webinars about the materials. [Register today.](#)

In the News

Thinking Outside the Bin: Why labeling books by reading level disempowers young readers

This [article](#) from the School Library Journal talks about the damage that can be done to readers when you restrict all of their reading to their "just-right" level, and how librarians can be partners in supporting students with independent reading that allows them to pursue their interests and be successful readers.



Bulletin Board

Get Involved

Are you a K–2 teacher who already uses the RAP lessons in your classrooms? SAP is working on developing resources to support Shift 3 (building knowledge) and we would

love to have you pilot them and provide feedback. Email [Carey Swanson](#) if you are interested!

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is requesting public review and feedback on its draft "Catalyzing Change in High School Mathematics," now through October 15th. The document is intended to identify and address some of the challenges to making high school mathematics and statistics work for each and every student. Take a look and [share your thoughts with NCTM!](#)

Upcoming Events

October 24–25
Leading the Core Convening
Chicago, IL

November 1
Core Advocate webinar
7 p.m. – 8 p.m. (ET)

December 6
Core Advocate Webinar
7 p.m. – 8 p.m. (ET)

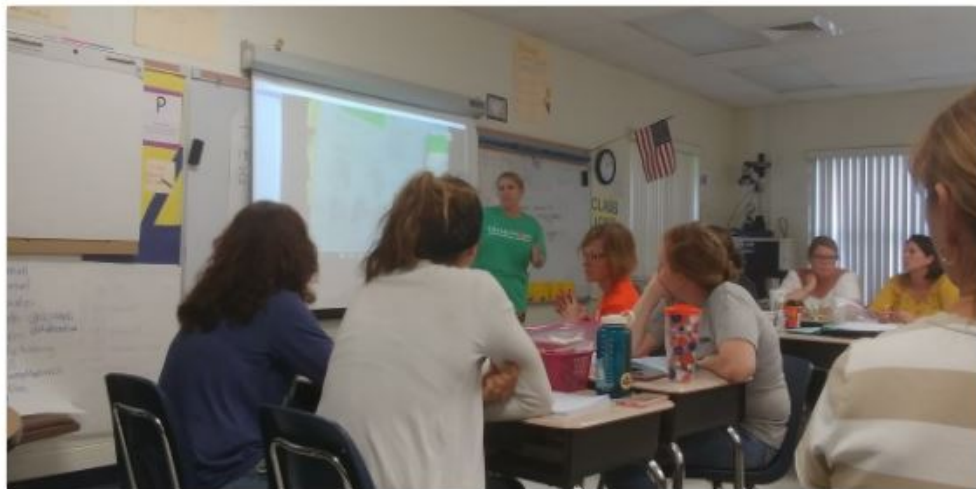


Social Media Spotlight



Dana Zacharko @DanaZacharko · Sep 1

AWESOME district PLC today for [#VCSMath](#). It was very helpful & made great new contacts. Thank you [@srhulsman](#) & [@Rylee_Bryant](#). [#coreadvocates](#)



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Dr. Leslie Haas @readinged · Sep 7

Excited to be a new member of the IA Statewide Literacy Leadership Team!

#iacoreadvocates #coreadvocates #instructionaladvocacy



KY_CoreAdvocates @KyCoreAdvocates · Sep 9

Advancing our knowledge of students' math progressions in K-6. @gfletchy

#coreadvocates





Jenna Rodgers, MS.Ed @mrsJennaRodgers · Sep 14

"What does CCSS implementation look like?" I was uncertain. @achievethecore 's IPG is a huge help goo.gl/y1r26z #coreadvocates



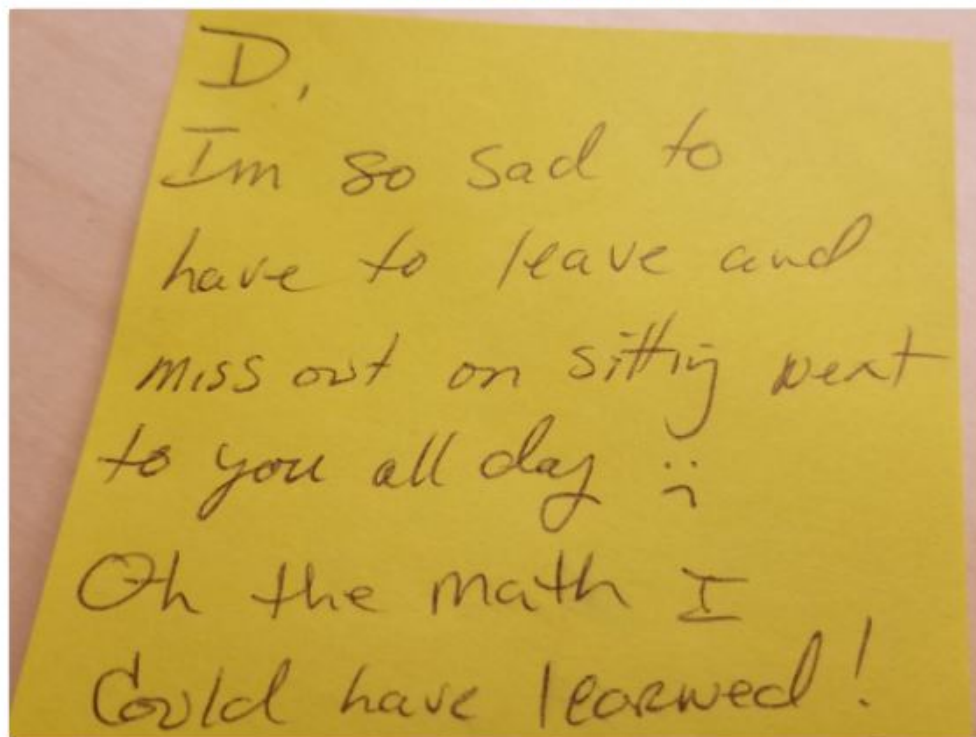
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Denise Green @denisebgreen · Sep 15

My elbow partner (self proclaimed "not mathy") at the math IPG training left me this note! 🥰 @achievethecore #CoreAdvocates #GrowthMindset



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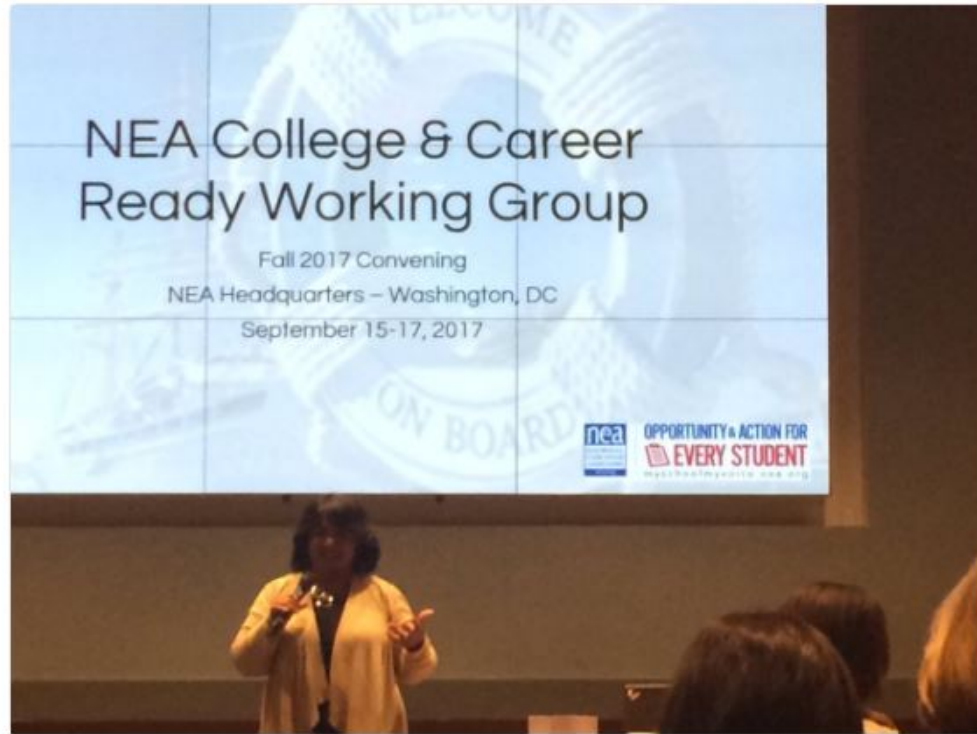




Kim Freeman @free61203139 · Sep 16



First day at conference. I am looking forward to presenting on math equity for all students. #NCAEILI #CoreAdvocates #ccrwg



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