

# C-SAIL District Survey

**California Version**  
Spring 2017

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## District Background

### Teachers in Your District

1. What grade levels are served in your district?

*Please select all that apply*

<input type="checkbox"/> Preschool	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 <sup>th</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 <sup>th</sup>
<input type="checkbox"/> Kindergarten	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 <sup>th</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 <sup>th</sup>
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 <sup>th</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 <sup>th</sup> (students with disabilities aged 18-22)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 <sup>th</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ungraded
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <sup>th</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> All of the above
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <sup>th</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 <sup>th</sup>	

2. Including the current school year (2016-17), how long have you worked as a district- or school-level administrator?

*Please do not include student practicums.*

	Years
a. Total amount of time as a district-level administrator in current district	_ _
b. Total amount of time as a district-level administrator	_ _
c. Total amount of time as a school-level administrator	_ _

### District Leadership

3. Since September 2010, how many different people have served as superintendent (or acting/interim superintendent) in your district?

*Please include the current superintendent.*

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Number of superintendents since September 2010

### Implementation of the Common Core State Standards

*This module asks for your views on the alignment, support and implementation of the Common Core State Standards in your district.*

4. During the 2016-17 school year, including summer 2016, what activities did your district engage in related to aligning the curricula in the elementary grades (e.g., K-5, K-6) with the Common Core State Standards?

	MATHEMATICS		ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
a. Selected new curricula that are specifically aligned with the Common Core State Standards	1	0	1	0
b. Reviewed existing curricula for alignment with the Common Core State Standards	1	0	1	0
c. Developed our own curricula to ensure that they are aligned with the Common Core State Standards	1	0	1	0
d. No alignment activities occurred	1	0	1	0
e. Other (specify): _____	1	0	1	0

5. During the 2016-17 school year, including summer 2016, what activities did your district engage in related to aligning the curricula in the high school grades, 9-12, with the Common Core State Standards?

	MATHEMATICS		ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
a. Selected new curricula that are specifically aligned with the Common Core State Standards	1	0	1	0
b. Reviewed existing curricula for alignment with the Common Core State Standards	1	0	1	0
c. Developed our own curricula to ensure that they are aligned with the Common Core State Standards	1	0	1	0
d. No alignment activities occurred	1	0	1	0
e. Other (specify): _____	1	0	1	0

6. To what extent is each of the following a challenge to your district's efforts to implement the Common Core State Standards in your district?

		<b>Not a challenge</b>	<b>Minor challenge</b>	<b>Moderate challenge</b>	<b>Major challenge</b>
a.	Lack of support from parents	1	2	3	4
b.	Student absenteeism and tardiness	1	2	3	4
c.	Insufficient class time to cover all the content	1	2	3	4
d.	Wide range of student abilities to address	1	2	3	4
e.	Large class size	1	2	3	4
f.	Inadequate instructional resources	1	2	3	4
g.	Principal turnover	1	2	3	4
h.	Teacher turnover	1	2	3	4

- To what extent is each of the following a challenge to your district's efforts to implement the Common Core State Standards in your district?

		<b>Not a challenge</b>	<b>Minor challenge</b>	<b>Moderate challenge</b>	<b>Major challenge</b>
i.	Lack of school resources to provide the extra help for students	1	2	3	4
j.	Level of difficulty of the current standards	1	2	3	4
k.	Conflicting state initiatives	1	2	3	4
l.	Conflicting district initiatives	1	2	3	4
m.	Insufficient understanding of the Common Core State Standards by teachers	1	2	3	4
n.	Insufficient understanding of the Common Core State Standards by principals	1	2	3	4
o.	Lack of high-quality teaching	1	2	3	4
p.	Low student achievement	1	2	3	4
q.	Amount of time used for additional district-administered tests	1	2	3	4

## State Resources

7. Which of the following supports for implementing the Common Core State Standards did you use?

	Not available	Available, but did not use	Used
a. Textbooks aligned to <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	0	1	2
b. Curriculum resources aligned to <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	0	1	2
c. Formative or diagnostic assessments aligned to <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	0	1	2
d. Digital tools (e.g., online textbooks, webinars, videos, online communities, applications)	0	1	2
e. Information about <u>how the Common Core State Standards</u> change what students are expected to learn	0	1	2
f. Information about <u>how the Common Core State Standards</u> change what is expected of our teachers' instructional practice	0	1	2
g. Professional development for principals on <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	0	1	2
h. Professional development for teachers on <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	0	1	2
i. Clarification of how instruction is expected to shift in order to align to <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	0	1	2
j. Information about how to identify and implement effective curricula or instructional strategies	0	1	2
k. Information about how to implement strategies to address the instructional needs of English language learners (ELLs)	0	1	2
l. Information about how to implement strategies to address the instructional needs of students with individualized education programs (IEPs)	0	1	2
m. Other (specify):	0	1	2

8. How much of each of the following resources would you like in the future, compared to what you use now?

	Less	Same amount	More
a. Textbooks aligned to <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	1	2	3
b. Curriculum resources aligned to <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	1	2	3
c. Formative or diagnostic assessments aligned to <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	1	2	3
d. Digital tools (e.g., online textbooks, webinars, videos, online communities, applications)	1	2	3
e. Information about <u>how the Common Core State Standards</u> change what students are expected to learn	1	2	3
f. Information about <u>how the Common Core State Standards</u> change what is expected of our teachers' instructional practice	1	2	3
g. Professional development for principals on <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	1	2	3
h. Professional development for teachers on <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	1	2	3
i. Clarification of how instruction is expected to shift in order to align to <u>the Common Core State Standards</u>	1	2	3
j. Information about how to identify and implement effective curricula or instructional strategies	1	2	3
k. Information about how to implement strategies to address the instructional needs of English language learners (ELLs)	1	2	3
l. Information about how to implement strategies to address the instructional needs of students with individualized education programs (IEPs)	1	2	3
m. Other (specify):	1	2	3

9. How useful were the supports you used in implementing the Common Core State Standards?

[Only complete items that were used, as selected in Question 7.]

	Not useful	Somewhat useful	Useful	Very useful
a. Textbooks aligned to the Common Core State Standards	0	1	2	3
b. Curriculum resources aligned to the Common Core State Standards	0	1	2	3
c. Formative or diagnostic assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards	0	1	2	3
d. Digital tools (e.g., online textbooks, webinars, videos, online communities, applications)	0	1	2	3
e. Information about how the Common Core State Standards change what students are expected to learn	0	1	2	3
f. Information about how the Common Core State Standards change what is expected of our teachers' instructional practice	0	1	2	3
g. Professional development for principals on the Common Core State Standards	0	1	2	3
h. Professional development for teachers on the Common Core State Standards	0	1	2	3
i. Clarification of how instruction is expected to shift in order to align to the Common Core State Standards	0	1	2	3
j. Information about how to identify and implement effective curricula or instructional strategies	0	1	2	3
k. Information about how to implement strategies to address the instructional needs of ELLs	0	1	2	3
l. Information about how to implement strategies to address the instructional needs of students with IEPs	0	1	2	3
m. Other (specify): _____	0	1	2	3

## District Resources

10. Please rate the extent that your district provided schools with the resources and support needed to effectively implement the Common Core State Standards.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent
a. The district provides high-quality resources to schools to effectively implement the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
b. The district provides schools with time to effectively implement the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
c. The district provides professional development to support its schools' effective implementation of the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
d. The district has sufficient expertise, or access to expertise, to help <u>principals</u> effectively implement the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
e. The district has sufficient expertise, or access to expertise, to help <u>teachers</u> effectively implement the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
f. The district provides time for educators to share implementation experiences with their peers.	1	2	3	4
g. The district provides support to <u>principals</u> in analyzing student assessment data from the Smarter Balanced Assessments.	1	2	3	4
h. The district provides support to <u>teachers</u> in analyzing student assessment data from the Smarter Balanced Assessments.	1	2	3	4



## Professional Development

12. Please indicate whether your district has offered professional development in the following areas during the summer of 2016 and the 2016-17 school year.

<i>Has the district offered professional development to teachers about ...</i>		<b>Offered?</b>	
		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
a.	The content of the Common Core State Standards for ELA	1	0
b.	Instructional strategies for teaching the Common Core State Standards for ELA to students with disabilities (excluding those who take the alternate assessment)	1	0
c.	Instructional strategies for teaching the Common Core State Standards for ELA to ELLs	1	0
d.	The content of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics	1	0
e.	Instructional strategies for teaching the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics to students with disabilities (excluding those who take the alternate assessment)	1	0
f.	Instructional strategies for teaching the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics to ELLs	1	0

### Teacher and Principal Evaluation/Feedback

13. Which of the following types of evidence do you use to determine overall summative performance ratings for principals and other administrators? Is it valuable?

	PRINCIPAL (and Other Administrators)			
	Not used	Used but not valuable	Somewhat valuable	Valuable
a. Unannounced observations	0	1	2	3
b. Announced/formal observations	0	1	2	3
c. Student work samples (e.g., portfolios, projects)	0	1	2	3
d. Feedback from students	0	1	2	3
e. Engagement with families	0	1	2	3
f. Feedback from parents	0	1	2	3
g. Students' state standardized test scores	0	1	2	3
h. Classroom assessments (e.g., student letter grades)	0	1	2	3
i. Extracurricular activities or professional responsibilities	0	1	2	3
j. Artifacts of practice provided by the teacher (e.g., lesson/unit plans)	0	1	2	3
k. Other (specify): _____	0	1	2	3

Which of the following types of evidence do you use to determine overall summative performance ratings for teachers? Is it valuable?

	TEACHER			
	Not used	Used but not valuable	Somewhat valuable	Valuable
a. Unannounced observations	0	1	2	3
b. Announced/formal observations	0	1	2	3
c. Student work samples (e.g., portfolios, projects)	0	1	2	3
d. Feedback from students	0	1	2	3
e. Engagement with families	0	1	2	3
f. Feedback from parents	0	1	2	3
g. Students' state standardized test scores	0	1	2	3
h. Classroom assessments (e.g., student letter grades)	0	1	2	3
i. Extracurricular activities or professional responsibilities	0	1	2	3
j. Artifacts of practice provided by the teacher (e.g., lesson/unit plans)	0	1	2	3
k. Other (specify): _____	0	1	2	3

14. How frequently are summative teacher evaluation results used in your district in the following ways?

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
a.	To identify areas in which teachers need professional development	1	2	3	4
b.	To determine whether particular teachers receive (or keep) teacher continuing contracts	1	2	3	4
c.	To determine whether principals receive a monetary bonus on top of their salary, a salary increase, or promotion to a higher level	1	2	3	4
d.	To make changes in work responsibilities or job assignments	1	2	3	4
e.	To provide information to parents or the general public about the quality of your district as a whole	1	2	3	4
f.	To determine whether teachers enter into some type of probationary status (i.e., employee improvement plan)	1	2	3	4
g.	For making decisions about layoffs, displacement, or reductions in workforce	1	2	3	4

15. How frequently are teachers formally evaluated (e.g., given a summative evaluation rating)?

		Two or more times per year	Once a year	Once every two years	Once every three years	Once every four or more years	No formal evaluations are conducted
a.	Teachers with probationary contracts	1	2	3	4	5	6
b.	Teachers with term contracts	1	2	3	4	5	6
c.	Teachers with continuing contracts	1	2	3	4	5	6

16. Are principal evaluation results used in your district in the following ways?

	No	Yes
a. To identify areas in which principals need professional development	1	2
b. To determine whether principals receive a monetary bonus on top of their salary, a salary increase, or promotion to a higher level	1	2
c. To make changes in work responsibilities or job assignments	1	2
d. To provide information to parents or the general public about the quality of your district as a whole	1	2
e. To determine whether principals enter into some type of probationary status (i.e., employee improvement plan)	1	2
f. For making decisions about layoffs, displacement, or reductions in workforce	1	2

17. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent
a. The district rewards or recognizes <u>principals</u> based on their schools' implementation of the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
b. The district rewards or recognizes <u>teachers</u> based on their classroom implementation of the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
c. There are negative repercussions <u>for principals</u> in my district if their schools poorly implement the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
d. There are negative repercussions <u>for teachers</u> in my district who poorly implement the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
e. The district rewards or recognizes <u>principals</u> based on their schools' the Smarter Balanced Assessments scores.	1	2	3	4
f. The district rewards or recognizes <u>teachers</u> based on their students' the Smarter Balanced Assessments scores.	1	2	3	4

18. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent
a. The <u>state</u> rewards or recognizes districts for implementation of the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
b. There are negative repercussions <u>for districts</u> in my state that poorly implement the Common Core State Standards.	1	2	3	4
c. The state <u>rewards or recognizes</u> districts based on districts' the Smarter Balanced Assessments scores.	1	2	3	4
d. The state <u>penalizes</u> districts based on districts' the Smarter Balanced Assessments scores.	1	2	3	4

19. Please indicate the extent to which each source, on balance, has been critical or supportive of the Common Core State Standards.

		I don't know	Mostly critical	Mixed, but more critical than supportive	Neutral	Mixed, but more supportive than critical	Mostly supportive
a.	Governor's office	8	1	2	3	4	5
b.	State Legislature	8	1	2	3	4	5
c.	California Department of Education	8	1	2	3	4	5
d.	District leaders and staff	8	1	2	3	4	5
e.	Principals in my district	8	1	2	3	4	5
f.	Teachers in my district	8	1	2	3	4	5
g.	Local teacher organization or union	8	1	2	3	4	5
h.	Parents of students in my district	8	1	2	3	4	5
i.	School board	8	1	2	3	4	5

20. Including this current school year, how long do you believe each of the following will remain in effect?

		1-2 years	3 years	4 years	5+ years
a.	The Common Core State Standards for ELA	1	2	3	4
b.	The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics	1	2	3	4
c.	The Smarter Balanced Assessments	1	2	3	4

## The Common Core State Standards

### Content Standards

21. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements.

SELECT ONE RESPONSE PER ROW	Don't know	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
a. The Common Core State Standards for ELA set appropriate expectations for student learning at each grade level.	8	1	2	3	4
b. The Common Core State Standards for ELA positively affect the degree to which students are prepared for college and career.	8	1	2	3	4
c. The Common Core State Standards for ELA make learning relevant to students' everyday lives.	8	1	2	3	4
d. Since California started implementing the Common Core State Standards for ELA, teachers in my district have made significant instructional shifts to tailor instruction to those standards.	8	1	2	3	4
e. The ELA sections of the Smarter Balanced Assessments test provide valuable information about how well students in my district are mastering the state standards.	8	1	2	3	4

Please indicate your agreement with the following statements.

SELECT ONE RESPONSE PER ROW	Don't know	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
a. The Common Core State Standards for ELA are appropriate for ELLs.	8	1	2	3	4
b. The Common Core State Standards for ELA are appropriate for students with disabilities' learning (including those with mild learning disabilities but excluding those who take the alternate assessment).	8	1	2	3	4
c. Results from the ELA portion of the Smarter Balanced Assessments test accurately represent students' mastery of the ELA concepts emphasized in the Common Core State Standards for ELA.	8	1	2	3	4
d. Results from the ELA portion of the Smarter Balanced Assessments test are a good measure of how well students learned what ELA teachers in my district taught last year.	8	1	2	3	4



22. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements about the Common Core State Standards for ELA.

	Don't know	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
a. The Common Core State Standards for ELA <b>exclude</b> important content that students should learn.	0	1	2	3	4
b. The Common Core State Standards for ELA provide a manageable number of topics to teach in a school year.	0	1	2	3	4
c. The Common Core State Standards for ELA give educators the flexibility they need to help students who are below grade level.	0	1	2	3	4
d. The Common Core State Standards for ELA are more rigorous than the previous state standards.	0	1	2	3	4
e. Teaching to the Common Core State Standards for ELA will increase student learning.	0	1	2	3	4
f. Teaching to the Common Core State Standards for ELA is a major priority in my district.	0	1	2	3	4

23. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements.

	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
a. The Common Core State Standards for ELA clearly indicate the content teachers should teach.	1	2	3	4
b. Teachers have received guidance from my district that clearly indicates <u>the order in which</u> they should teach each content area in the Common Core State Standards for ELA.	1	2	3	4
c. Teachers have received guidance from my district that clearly indicates <u>how much time they should spend</u> on each content area in the Common Core State Standards for ELA.	1	2	3	4

24. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements.

SELECT ONE RESPONSE PER ROW	Don't know	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
a. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics set appropriate expectations for student learning at each grade level.	0	1	2	3	4
b. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics positively affect the degree to which students are prepared for college and career.	0	1	2	3	4
c. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics positively affect how well students are prepared to compete in the workforce.	0	1	2	3	4
d. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics make learning relevant to students' everyday lives.	0	1	2	3	4
e. Since California started implementing the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, teachers in my district have made significant instructional shifts to tailor instruction to those standards.	0	1	2	3	4
f. The mathematics sections of the Smarter Balanced Assessments test provide valuable information about how well students in my district are mastering the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.	0	1	2	3	4
g. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics are appropriate for ELLs.	0	1	2	3	4
h. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics are appropriate for students with disabilities' learning (including those with mild learning disabilities but excluding those who take the alternate assessment).	0	1	2	3	4
i. Results from the mathematics portion of the Smarter Balanced Assessments test accurately represent students' mastery of the mathematics concepts emphasized by the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.	0	1	2	3	4
j. Results from the mathematics portion of the Smarter Balanced Assessments are a good measure of how well students learned what mathematics teachers in my district taught last year.	0	1	2	3	4

25. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements about the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.

	Don't know	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
a. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics <b>exclude</b> important content that students should learn.	0	1	2	3	4
b. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics provide a manageable number of topics to teach in a school year.	0	1	2	3	4
c. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics give educators the flexibility they need to help students who are below grade level.	0	1	2	3	4
d. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics are more rigorous than the previous state standards.	0	1	2	3	4
e. Teaching to the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics will increase student learning.	0	1	2	3	4
h. Teaching to the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics is a major priority in my district.	0	1	2	3	4

26. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements about the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.

	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
a. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics clearly indicate the content teachers should teach.	1	2	3	4
c. Teachers have received guidance from my district that clearly indicates <u>the order in which</u> they should teach each content area in the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.	1	2	3	4
d. Teachers have received guidance from my district that clearly indicates <u>how much time they should spend</u> on each content area in the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.	1	2	3	4

## State Accountability Assessments

27. Please indicate your opinion on the degree to which the following are aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

	N/A	Don't know	Not at all aligned	Somewhat aligned	Aligned	Strongly aligned
a. The Smarter Balanced Assessments test	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. District-mandated summative assessments	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. Formative or diagnostic assessments selected or created by schools	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. Formative or diagnostic assessments used district-wide	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. Mathematics textbooks used in your school or district	0	1	2	3	4	5
f. ELA textbooks used in your school or district	0	1	2	3	4	5
g. Mathematics curriculum selected or developed by your district	0	1	2	3	4	5
h. ELA curriculum selected or developed by your district	0	1	2	3	4	5

## Thank you page

Thank you for completing the district survey for the C-SAIL Challenging Academic State Standards Study. We appreciate your time and input. Your responses will be utilized by policymakers and educational leaders to inform future decisions about standards implementation.

If you have any questions about the study, please contact us at 1-866-519-1884.