

LISD Curriculum Information

May 2015



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Purpose

Provide clarification regarding the LISD curriculum

Address pertinent legislative information

Support direction from LISD Board of Trustees regarding concerns related to the Common Core State Standards

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Explanation of Curriculum Related Terms

Term	Explanation	Created by:
Learning Standards (TEKS)	Essential knowledge students must learn in all courses and subjects K-12	The State of Texas
Curriculum	“The What”- units of studies developed based on standards, includes resources and assessment ideas	LISD teacher teams facilitated by LISD content area experts
Instruction	“The How” – classroom strategies and instructional approaches used to teach the curriculum	Individual classroom teacher and/or grade level/ subject area teams
Lesson Plan	Maps out the daily or weekly activities, assessments and resources that will be used to engage students in learning	Individual classroom teacher and/or grade level/ subject area teams
Assessment	Opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning of the curriculum and for teachers to evaluate student understanding	Individual classroom teacher and/or grade level/ subject area teams
Curriculum Based Assessment (CBA)	District assessments campuses can use to evaluate student mastery of TEKS and collect data for analysis	District content area experts

What determines the content that school districts in Texas are required to teach?



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Texas Education Code

Texas school districts are required by law to provide instruction in the essential knowledge and skills (TEKS) at appropriate grade levels (TEC 28.002)



Are LISD teachers required to teach the district curriculum?



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LISD Board Policy: EG Local

Teachers are required to use the District curriculum and instructional guides as their primary source of instructional direction. The principal shall ensure that optimum use is made of available written curriculum materials and instructional time.

Curriculum and instruction guides shall serve as the framework from which a teacher shall develop units of study, individual lesson plans and approaches to instruction that shall serve the students' particular needs at a particular time.



What process is used by the State Board of Education (SBOE) to determine the TEKS?



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TEKS Development/Review Process

The State Board of Education is responsible for the TEKS Development/Review process:

- Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff conducts the process ([TEA information](#))
 - Form review committees
 - Solicit public comments
 - Set implementation timelines



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State TEKS Revision Timeline

Content Area	Adoption	Implementation	Instructional Materials Made Available
Science	2009	2010-2011	Supplemental Adoption 2010
Social Studies	2010	2011-2012	Skipped adoption, moved to Proclamation 2015
Math	2012	K-8 2014-2015 9-12 2015-2016	Proclamation 2014 Proclamation 2015
Fine Arts	2013	2015-2016	Proclamation 2015
Languages Other Than English (LOTE)	2014	2016-2017	Proclamation 2017
CTE	2015	2017-2018	Proclamation 2017
ELA	2016	2018-2019	Proclamation 2018



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What process is used by LISD to develop district curriculum and select state adopted instructional materials?



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LISD Curriculum Development Process

- **Select teachers for curriculum writing teams**
- **Deeply analyze, study and evaluate the TEKS**
- **Organize the TEKS into units of study**
- **Sequence the units of study**
- **Identify state adopted resources and supplemental resources that align with the TEKS**

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LISD Instructional Materials Selection from State Adopted Resources

**SBOE issues list of materials approved for use in
Texas that align with TEKS**

**LISD teacher teams convened to analyze state
adopted materials and select from those that meet
100% of the TEKS.**

**Materials made available for public review and
comment**

**Teacher committee recommendations presented to
Board of Trustees**

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If Texas is not a Common Core state, then why do the recent Math TEKS changes seem to be the same as Common Core?



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What is the Common Core?

According to their website the Common Core State Standards are defined as: “a set of high-quality academic standards in mathematics and English language arts/literacy (ELA). These learning goals outline what a student should know and be able to do at the end of each grade” <http://www.corestandards.org/about-the-standards/>)

In 2009, 48 states committed to developing the Common Core. Currently, 43 states, the District of Columbia, four territories, and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) have voluntarily adopted and are moving forward with the Common Core.

Texas has NOT adopted the Common Core.

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Elementary Math Example

Math TEKS	Common Core Math Standard
3.4E represent multiplication facts by using a variety of approaches <u>such as repeated addition, equal-sized groups, arrays, area models, equal jumps on a number line, and skip counting;</u>	Interpret products of whole numbers, e.g., interpret 5×7 as the total number of objects in 5 groups of 7 objects each. For example, describe a context in which a total number of objects can be expressed as 5×7 .
3.4K solve <u>one-step and two-step</u> problems involving multiplication and division within 100 <u>using strategies based on objects; pictorial models, including arrays, area models, and equal groups; properties of operations; or recall of facts.</u>	Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems in situations involving equal groups, arrays, and measurement quantities, e.g., by using drawings and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem. ¹

The TEKS go beyond what is in the Common Core, with greater specificity of mathematical approaches



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Elementary ELA Example

3 rd Grade ELA TEKS	Common Core ELA Standard
<p>Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of fiction and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(A) sequence and summarize the plot's main events and explain their influence on future events;(B) describe the interaction of characters including their relationships and the changes they undergo; and(C) identify whether the narrator or speaker of a story is first or third person.	<p>Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events</p>

The TEKS go beyond what is in the Common Core, with greater specificity



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What legislation addresses the use of Common Core in Texas?



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House Bill 462 – 83rd Texas Legislature

Prohibits:

- SBOE from adopting the Common Core
- School districts from using Common Core to meet the requirements to provide instruction in the TEKS
- TEA from adopting or developing assessments based on the Common Core

Legislative Intent/Legal Opinion on Use of Common Core Resources

The Legislature was aware of the frequent overlap between the TEKS and the Common Core Standards, as evidenced by the bill author's explanation that it was not his intent "to prevent the use of materials where the two standards overlap"

Letter from Attorney General Greg Abbott to Dan Patrick (June 2014)



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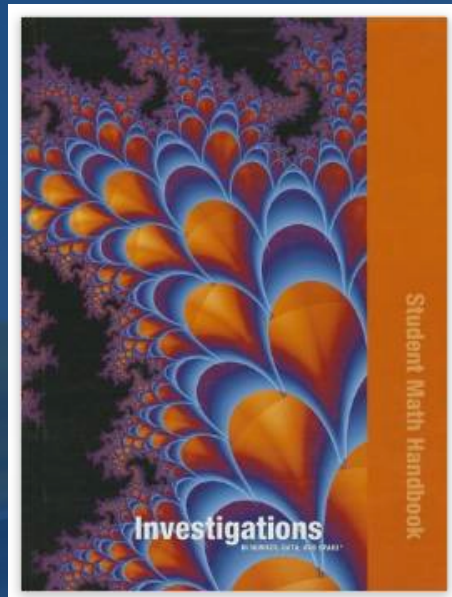
There are valuable instructional materials that help our teachers meet individual student needs that are used because of their alignment to the TEKS not the Common Core.

When as much as 68% of the Common Core Standards overlap with the TEKS, this can create confusion, concern, and frustration when materials indicate they align with the Common Core.

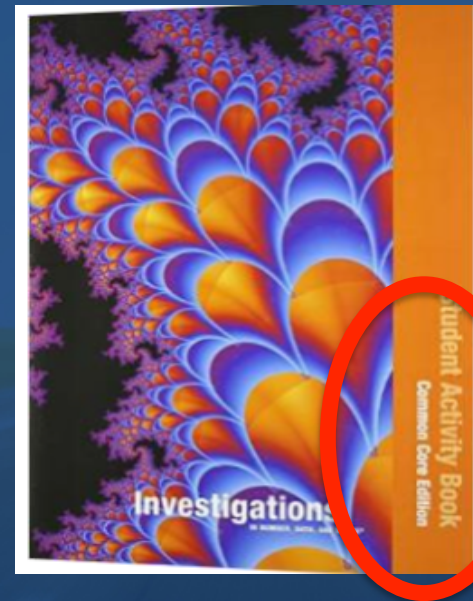


Publisher Marketing Strategies

Before Common
Core 2007:



After Common
Core 2012:



Publishers now put Common Core on the front of their materials as a marketing strategy.

What steps is LISD taking to ensure implementation of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)?



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LISD personnel will....

- **Develop resources for parents (FAQ, Common Core Statement, Math TEKS website)**
- **Emphasize the use of district curriculum and the importance of instruction and materials aligning with the TEKS during professional learning sessions with teachers.**
- **Require publishers of instructional materials to provide LISD personnel with an alignment document indicating the alignment of their materials to the TEKS.**

Conclusion:

- The State creates the TEKS
- The LISD curriculum is written by LISD teachers
- The LISD curriculum is based on the TEKS not the Common Core
- There is some overlap between the TEKS and the Common Core
- Instructional materials are used in LISD because they support teachers in delivering the LISD curriculum and the TEKS.





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