

Understanding the Common Core State Standards and their Role in Catholic Education

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Common Core Literature

- Began in 2009; adopted by 43 states
- Goals: unite country in instruction, college and career readiness, common assessment tool
- Professional development
- Concerns about research basis



Catholic Education Literature

- Private schools not dictated by states
- BUT many dioceses have adopted standards
- NCEA issued statement in support
- Creation of Common Core Catholic Identity Initiative
- Opposition: Letter from professors to USCCB

Methodology and Research

- Research Question: What factors lead to the adaptation of the CCSS for Catholic schools, and how do Catholic schools implement their academic?
- Interviews with teachers, principals, and superintendents of two archdioceses (one using CCSS, one using another set of standards)

Results and Discussion

- Similar development of standards in both archdioceses
- Similar implementations of standards (professional development, textbooks, response to opposition)
- Catholic identity most evident in writing of standards

Resources include...

- McLaughlin, M., & Overturf, B. J. (2012). The common core: Insights into the K-5 standards. *Reading Teacher*, 66(2), 153-164. doi:10.1002/TRTR.01115
- Ozar, L. A. (2012). National catholic school standards: An accountable vision of catholic schools for our times. *Journal of Catholic School Studies*, 84(2), 6-12.