Parent Information: Common Core standards help students become critical thinkers ready for college and career, putting them on a path to prosperity in Orange County’s bright economic future.

Common Core provides clear standards for grade levels and across schools. Parents can be confident they understand what their children need to know for each grade level.

With California’s Common Core standards, students continue to learn factual information, but will also receive a deeper education that will focus on critical thinking and analysis. Students will benefit by being better prepared to succeed in college and careers in the 21st Century.

Common Core learning standards give far more power to teachers and districts than they have had before. These standards set out what each student is expected to know by the end of the school year. However, the standards do not tell the teacher how to teach.

Common Core standards allow the curriculum, specific books, lesson plans and classroom exercises to be left up to each district to decide on its own. By doing this, the Common Core learning standards allow individual communities to tailor learning exercises and lessons to their own students.

With Common Core standards, students will learn factual information, but they will also develop the ability to solve problems as they arise. That’s what we all need to do in real life and what businesses are looking for in the people they hire.

In a world where we don’t know what the jobs of tomorrow will look like, being able to analyze the situation and solve problems will be key for a student’s future success. That’s why Common Core learning standards are valuable.

Business leaders are looking for critical thinkers and problem solvers. These skills, at the center of Common Core standards, are needed in today’s workplace.

As jobs in the 21st Century continue to change, business leaders need people who can analyze the changes and determine how the business can evolve to meet them. Common Core standards will help students — as future employees — be more successful.

Business leaders are looking to high schools, community colleges and universities to help their students develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Common Core standards focus on these capabilities.

Capable employees are not only critical to the health of their individual businesses, but to Orange County’s economy as a whole. Common Core standards help students become critical thinkers ready for college and career.

Homework will be tougher, as students work to meet new, higher standards. Families are uniquely positioned to help children build a bridge between their schoolwork and the world. Students are more likely to succeed and have a positive attitude when family members encourage them to persist.

FACEBOOK POSTS

Drive the conversation. Share the benefits of higher standards.

(These posts will get you started. Insert them into personal or parent-sponsored Facebook pages. Try adding a link to one of the videos in this Toolkit. Post at least once a week.)