

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The new California Standards gets support from educators.

SUBMITTING LETTERS

(These sample letters will get you started. Either fill in the blanks and email it to your local newspaper or create your own. When submitting a Letter to the Editor, include your phone number or email address. The editors will want to contact you to confirm that you are the writer.)

WHERE TO SUBMIT

There are many other newspapers in Orange County. Most of them are weekly publications and are devoted to news in a single city. Many of these papers are owned by either the Times or the Register.

When talking to an editor, ask what other local publications would consider publishing your letter.

NEWSPAPERS IN ORANGE COUNTY

The Los Angeles Times

letters@latimes.com, 1.800.LATIMES, ext. 74511

The Orange County Register

letters@ocregister.com

Avery Bissett, editor for letters

abissett@ocregister.com, 714.796.3644

Letter #1

I have been an educator for the past [xxx] years. I can tell parents and community members that California's Common Core standards will benefit students and our community. That's because I believe Common Core will help students develop important life skills, such as critical thinking. Going forward, they can use these skills to make informed choices, get a job and stand on their own two feet.

Technology is changing rapidly and touching nearly every aspect of our personal and business lives. It's staggering to think of the skills students will need to be successful throughout their careers. In fact, we are hearing from college administrators and business leaders that students need to be better prepared in order to be successful. This doesn't mean they need to memorize more information. It means they need to learn to analyze information, think things through and solve problems.

California's Common Core standards will help students achieve these goals.

Letter #2

With California's Common Core standards, teachers will teach to the higher standards while maintaining control of our classrooms. Common Core sets 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. The curriculum, specific books, lesson plans and classroom exercises are left up to each district to decide on its own. By doing this, we are tailoring learning exercises and lessons to our own students.

California's Common Core standards are important, because they are helping to prepare students to keep up and be competitive in today's workforce and that of the future. Common Core focuses on critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and communication.

With Common Core, I believe students will be more successful in higher education and as working members of our community.