Iowa Core: Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, Grades 6-12 Transcript

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Welcome to a series of Webcasts orienting teachers and administrators to the new Iowa Core in Literacy. This Webcast is designed to trigger conversation about the "Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, Grades 6-12."

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My name is Yvette McCulley (YM) and I am the Science Consultant at the Iowa Department of Education.

My name is Cheryl Mullenbach (CM) and I am the Social Studies Consultant at the Iowa Department of Education.

Please have the "English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects" document available as you listen to this Web cast. (pages 67-76)

Thanks for joining us today.

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CM-
Our learning goal for this Webcast is that participants will know how to navigate the document *Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, Grades 6-12*.

YM-
The new Iowa Core K-12 Literacy Standards has a very clear goal. It is for more students to graduate from high school prepared to meet the literacy challenges of college and career. The standards were developed by the National Governors' Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers and represent an important step in implementing a standards based approach to education.

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YM-
The College and Career Readiness Standards in the 6-12 grade span were designed to meet the following criteria:

- Alignment with college and work expectations.
- Inclusion of rigorous content and application of knowledge through high order skills.
- Built upon strengths and lessons of current state standards.

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YM-

- Informed by top performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society; and,
- Based on evidence and/or research.

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CM-
Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, Grades 6-12 focus on reading and writing.

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CM- We'll focus on the reading strand first. Please turn to page 68.
The "College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading " provide an overarching structure for all the standards. They are structured around four "skills and understandings" that all students must demonstrate:

- Key Ideas and Details, Craft and Structure, Integration of Knowledge and Ideas, Range of Reading, and Level of Text Complexity.

Reading is critical to building knowledge in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects. College and career ready reading in these areas requires appreciation of the norms and conventions of the discipline. For example, students in these disciplines need to be able to analyze and evaluate sources. Students must be able to read complex informational text because reading in college and workforce training programs will be sophisticated nonfiction. They need to be able to gain knowledge from challenging texts that often make extensive use of elaborate diagrams and data to convey information and illustrate concepts. It's important to note that these reading standards are meant to **complement** the specific content demands of the disciplines, not replace them.

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The College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading are divided into two sections:

1) Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies 6-12 (pages 69-70). There are 10 standards.
2) Reading Standards for Literacy in Science and Technical Subjects 6-12 (pages 71-72). There are 10 standards here also.

Pages 69-72 add specificity and each standard is articulated—increasing in complexity across grade spans—to the "College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading" as defined on page 68.

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YM-We'll focus on the writing strand next (p. 73). The "College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing " provide an overarching structure for all the standards. As with reading, they are structured around four "skills and understandings" that all students must demonstrate:

- Text Types and Purposes
- Production and Distribution of Writing

- Research to Build and Present Knowledge
- Range of Writing

For students writing is a key means of asserting and defending claims, showing what they know about a subject, and conveying what they have experienced, imagined, thought and felt. Students must devote significant time and effort to writing and producing numerous pieces over short and long time frames throughout the year.

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YM–

The College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing are NOT divided into two sections. Rather, History/social studies, Science and Technical Subjects, 6-12 are combined. And there are 10 standards.

Pages 74, 75 and 76 add specificity to the "College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing" as defined on page 73. Each anchor standard is articulated—increasing in complexity across grade spans--to the "College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing" as defined on page 73. As an example, notice that under "Text Types and Purposes," on page 74 and 75, numbers 1 and 2 include lettered statements that add additional detail.

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The Iowa Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects standards can be found at the Iowa Core Web site: www.corecurriculum.iowa.gov.

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We are hopeful this information will enrich your conversation around this piece of the Iowa Core. A follow-up webcast will facilitate classroom applications including examples of the Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, Grades 6-12.

The Department of Education understands and appreciates the hard work required of educators in implementing these standards. Thank you for taking the time to listen to this presentation.