

HIGH STANDARDS AND THE ASSESSMENTS:

**What Parents and Students
Need to Know**



Agenda

- Superintendent [NAME]/Principal [NAME], [SCHOOL]
 - The Learning Standards
 - Why Aim High
 - Changes in the Classroom
 - Helping Teachers Help Students Reach the Higher Bar
 - 3-8 Annual Assessments
 - Old versus New
 - Test Facts
 - What's Next for the 3-8 Tests?
 - Q+A



The Learning Standards



The Move to Higher Standards

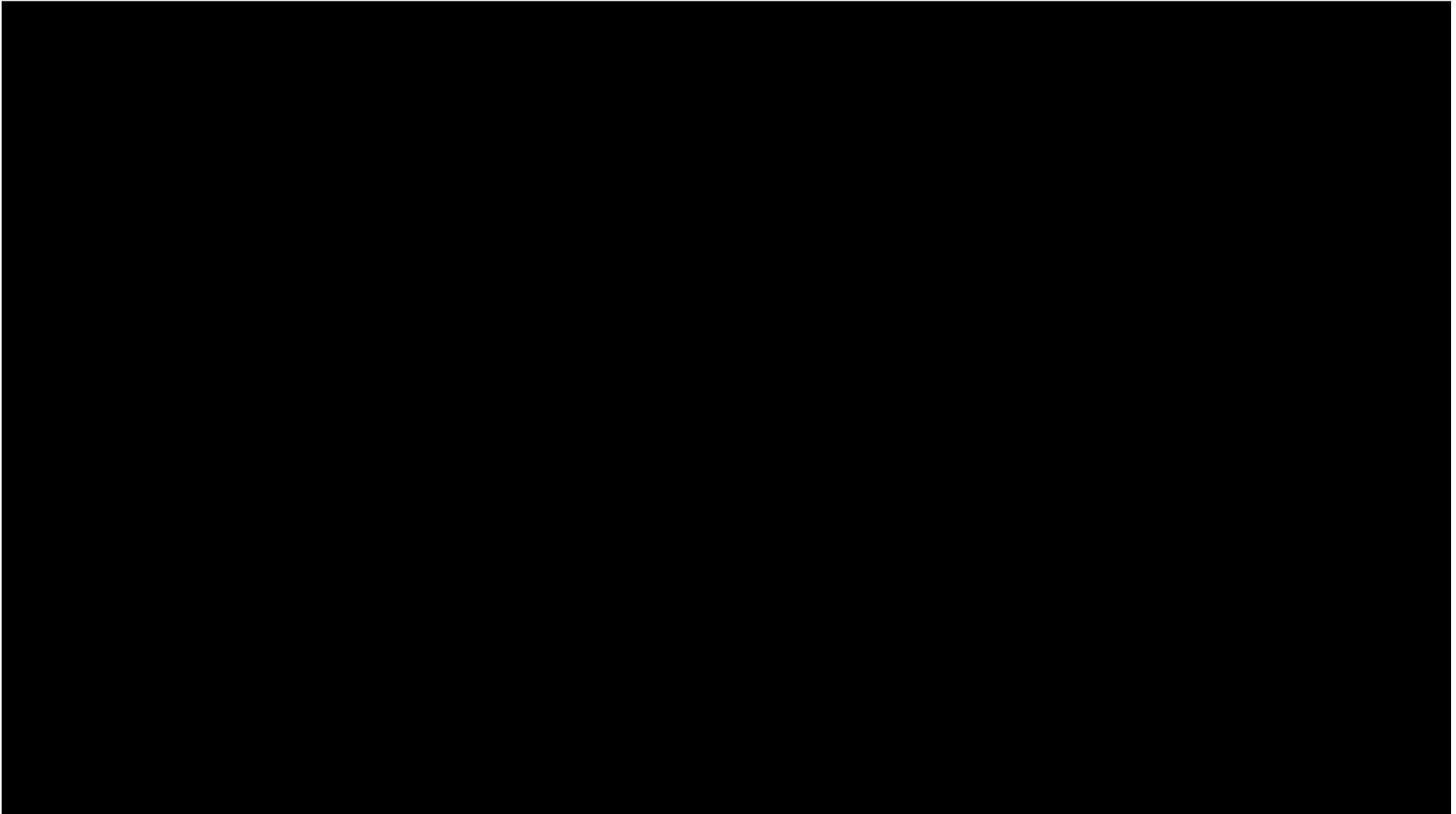
Whether they want to go to college or straight into the workplace, our students need to be able to think critically and solve complex problems.

In 2010, the Board of Regents adopted more rigorous, college and career-readiness standards to help ensure our schools are preparing all children for success upon graduation from high school.

Why High Learning Standards?

- ✓ They help all children—no matter who they are—learn the same skills.
- ✓ They are clear expectations for what your child should know and be able to do in key areas: *reading, writing, speaking and listening, language and mathematics.*
- ✓ If you know what these expectations are, then you can work with your child's teacher and help your child prepare.

Higher Ed Supports Higher Standards



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltOCF4cUmTQ>

High Standards in the Classroom

ELA/Literacy

- ✓ Read both non-fiction and fiction
- ✓ Learn about the world by reading
- ✓ Read more challenging material closely
- ✓ Discuss reading using evidence
- ✓ Write non-fiction using evidence
- ✓ Increase academic vocabulary

Mathematics

- ✓ Focus: learn more about fewer key topics
- ✓ Build skills within and across grades
- ✓ Develop speed and accuracy
- ✓ Really know it, really do it
- ✓ Use it in the real world
- ✓ Think fast AND solve problems

ELA/Literacy: Read as much non fiction as fiction

Students...	Parents can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read both non-fiction and fiction• Know the ways non-fiction can be put together• Enjoy and discuss the details of non-fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supply more non-fiction text• Read non-fiction texts aloud or with your child• Have fun with non-fiction in front of them

ELA/Literacy: Learn about the world by reading

Students...	Parents can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get smart in Science and Social Studies through reading• Handle “primary source” documents• Get smarter <i>through</i> texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supply series of texts on topics of interest• Find books that explain• Discuss non-fiction texts and the ideas within

The more we read the more we can read!

- By age 3, children from affluent families have heard 30 million more words than children from parents living in poverty (Hart and Risley, 1995).
- Children who have larger vocabularies and greater understanding of spoken language do better in school (Whitehurst and Lonigan, 1998).
- If children aren't reading on grade level by third grade, they are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma (Hernandez, 2011).

ELA/Literacy: Read more complex material carefully

Students...	Parents can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Re-read• Read material at comfort level AND work with more challenging stuff• Unpack text• Handle frustration and keep pushing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide more challenging texts AND provide texts they WANT to read and can read comfortably• Know what is grade level appropriate• Read challenging stuff <i>with</i> them• Show that challenging stuff is worth unpacking

Support their Reading. Read Challenging Texts Aloud.

Grades	Example of Complexity: Non-fiction	Example of Complexity: Fiction
K-1	A Tree is a Plant Read Aloud: Fire, Fire!	Are you My Mother? Read Aloud: The Owl & the Pussycat
2-3	Martin Luther King and the March on Washington Read Aloud: What the World Eats	Fire Cat Read Aloud: Charlotte's Web
4-5	Hurricanes: Earth's Mightiest Storms The Kids' Guide to Money	Bud not Buddy The Secret Garden
6-8	Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass A Night to Remember	Little Women The People Could Fly
9-10	Hope, Despair, Memory Letter from Birmingham Jail	Things Fall Apart In the Time of Butterflies
11-12	Take the Tortillas Out of Your Poetry Mother Tongue Black Boy	The Canterbury Tales Dreaming in Cuban Crime & Punishment

ELA/Literacy: Discuss reading using evidence

Students...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find evidence to support their arguments• Form judgments• Become scholars• Discuss what the author is “up to”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about text• Demand evidence in every day discussions/ disagreements• Read aloud or read the same book and discuss with evidence

ELA/Literacy: Writing from Sources

Students...	Parents can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make arguments in writing using evidence• Compare multiple texts in writing• Write well	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage writing at home• Write “books” together and use evidence/ details• Look at Appendix A: http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_C.pdf

ELA/Literacy: Academic Vocabulary

Students...

- Learn the words that they can use in college and career
- Get smarter at using the “**language of power**”

Parents Can...

- **Read often** and constantly with babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and children
- Read multiple books about the same topic
- Let your kids see you reading
- **Talk to your children**; read to your children; listen to your children; sing with your children; make up silly rhymes and word games with your children

Marilyn Jager Adams

Advancing Our Students' Language and Literacy: The Challenge of Complex Texts (American Educator, Winter 2010-2011)

- What is written is much more complex than what we say.
- The more children read about a topic, the more they can read about that topic.

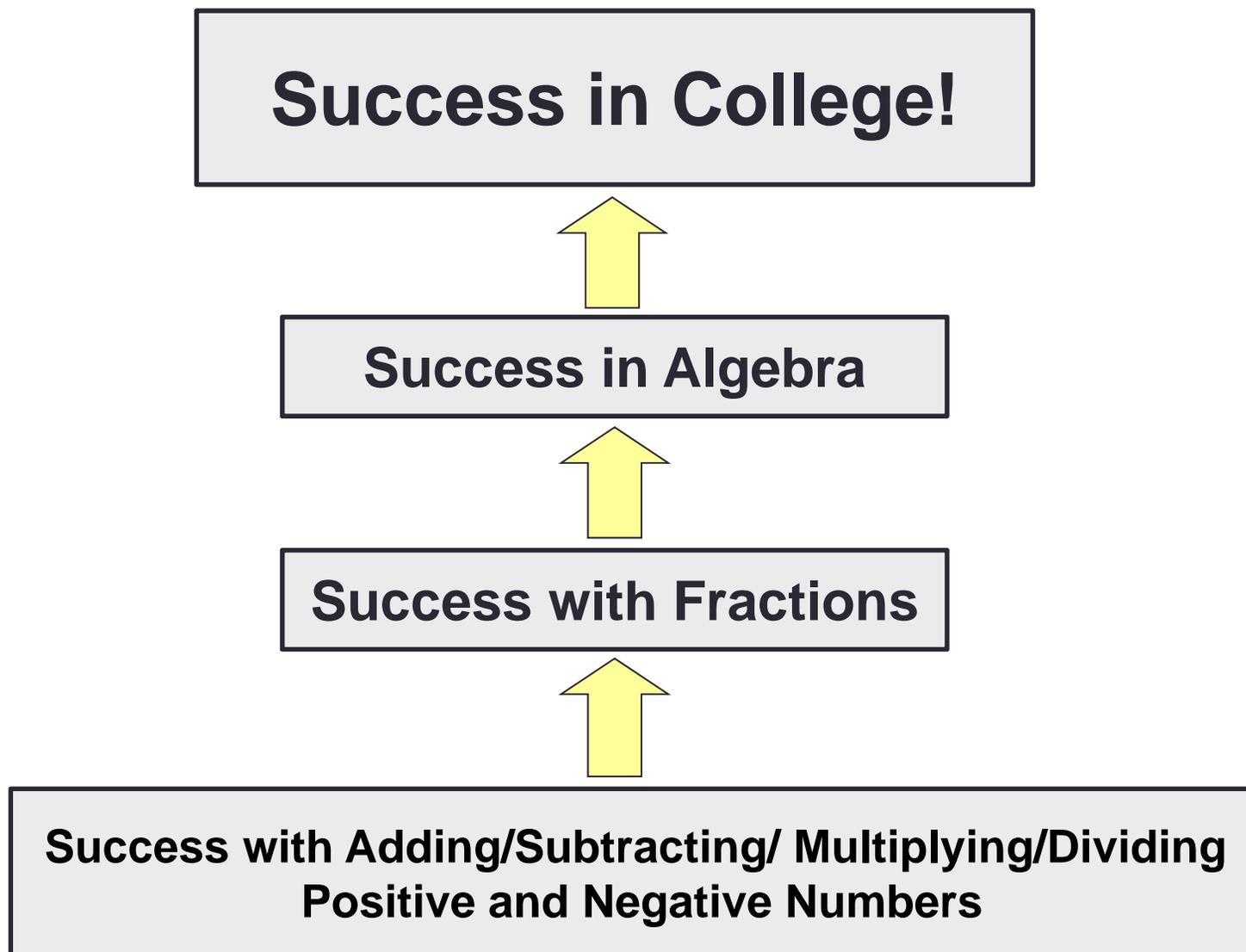
Mathematics: Focus: learn more about less

Students...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spend more time on fewer concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know what the priority work is for your child for their grade level• Spend time with your child on priority work• Ask your child's teacher about their progress on priority work

Mathematics: Skills Across Grades

Students...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep building on learning year after year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be aware of what your child struggled with last year and how that will affect learning this year• Advocate for your child and ensure that support is given for “gap” skills – negative numbers, fractions, etc.

The National Mathematics Advisory Panel's Final Report (2008)



Mathematics: Speed and Accuracy

Students...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spend time practicing – lots of problems on the same idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Push children to know/memorize basic math facts• Know all of the fluencies your child should have and prioritize learning of the ones they don't

Key Math Fluencies

Grade	Required Fluency
K	Add/subtract within 5
1	Add/subtract within 10
2	Add/subtract within 20 Add/subtract within 100 (pencil and paper)
3	Multiply/divide within 100 Add/subtract within 1000
4	Add/subtract within 1,000,000
5	Multi-digit multiplication
6	Multi-digit division Multi-digit decimal operations
7	Solve $px + q = r$, $p(x + q) = r$
8	Solve simple 2×2 systems by inspection

Mathematics: Know it/Do it!

Students...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNDERSTAND why the math works. MAKE the math work.• TALK about why the math works• PROVE that they know why and how the math works	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notice whether your child REALLY knows why the answer is what it is• Advocate for the TIME your child needs to learn key math• Provide TIME for your child to work hard with math at home• Get smarter in the math your child needs to know

Mathematics: Real World

Students...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply math in real world situations• Know which math to use for which situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask your child to DO the math that comes up in your daily life

Mathematics: Think Fast/Solve Problems

Students...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be able to use core math facts FAST <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be able to apply math in the real world	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make sure your child is PRACTICING the math facts he/she struggles with• Make sure your child is thinking about math in real life

Helping Teachers Help Students Reach the Higher Bar

- Increased targeted professional development for teachers to help them help our students meet the higher bar we've set for them
- Grants to support teacher coaching/mentoring
- Vast curriculum library and other instructional materials available for free on [EngageNY.org](https://www.engageny.org)

Learning Standards Review

The State Education Department is in the process of **reviewing New York's Common Core Learning Standards**. The Department is **seeking feedback from all stakeholders**, including educators, parents, and administrators, through an **online, public survey**. Survey participants will be able to provide input on individual standards.

For more information about the survey,
visit **nysed.gov/AIMHighNY**



Grades 3-8
English Language Arts and Math
Tests



Annual Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests

- Focus on the more rigorous college and career readiness state standards that are guiding instruction in ELA and math
- Measure real-world skills
- Require students to explain their answers and describe and defend their reasoning

They measure:

- ✓ Problem solving
- ✓ Writing
- ✓ Critical thinking

Your Child's Test Results

- ❑ They serve as an 'academic checkup' to make sure your child is on track for the next grade level.
- ❑ They measure progress over time so you see your child's year-to-year performance.
- ❑ They provide a deeper level of information by pinpointing what skills your child has mastered and what skills he is still developing.

Test Facts

- ❑ The Annual Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests are only one measure of student performance.
- ❑ The results provide objective information about your child's progress compared to other students, school districts, and the state.
- ❑ The annual tests in ELA and math for students in grades 3-8 are federally required; no additional federal or state required tests have been introduced since the adoption of the more rigorous learning standards.
- ❑ New York State teachers assisted with the development and review of each question on the tests.
- ❑ State law forbids using student performance on elementary- and middle-level tests as the sole or primary basis for student placement or promotion decisions.

What's next for the 3-8 tests?

New test vendor (Questar Assessment)

- Nearly double the number of NYS teachers will help develop future tests
- New vendor is working with the Education Department and districts to implement computer-based tests
 - Eventually will lead to reduced testing time and faster results

Moving toward:

- Shorter, more effective tests
- Reducing the need for stand-alone field tests
- Releasing more test questions
- Releasing results before the end of the school year

Questions + Answers

Learn more about the standards and assessments

Visit nysed.gov and engageNY.org

Talk to your child's teacher