

Parent Series for Oak Park Parents and Community

Oak Park is proud to offer a series of three informational sessions on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for interested parents and community members. These sessions are designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the CCSS and the accompanying Smarter Balances (SBAC) assessment.

Session #1 - All Sessions Completed

Session one will address “myths vs. facts” regarding the CCSS and cover the background and research behind how and why the standards were developed. This session also provides information on what the business and educational communities identify as essential skills for today’s students in order to successfully participate in the 21st century global marketplace.

Session #2

In session two, the design, organization and structure of the standards will be discussed as well as the key areas of focus in the CCSS in English-language arts and math. This session will also provide helpful suggestions on what parents can do to help their children meet the CCSS standards.

Session #3

The Smarter-Balanced Assessment is the subject of session three. Topics that will be covered are: how the new SBAC assessment differs from the previous CST assessment; an explanation of the types of test items; and a look at sample test questions.

Elementary Parent Information Sessions (Grades DK - 5th)

Daytime Sessions:

Session #1: December 2, 2014 - Brookside Elementary School - 8:45 am

Session #2: January 9, 2015 - Red Oak Elementary School - 8:45 am

Session #3: March 17, 2015 - Brookside Elementary School - 8:45 am

Evening Sessions

DK - Grade 12 - December 1, 2014 - Oak Park High School Pavilion - 6:30 pm

DK - Grade 12 - January 7, 2015 - Oak Park High School Pavilion - 6:30 pm

DK - Grade 12 - March 16, 2015 - Oak Park High School Pavilion - 6:30 pm

Secondary Parent Sessions (Grades 6-12)

Daytime Sessions:

Session #1: December 5, 2014 - Oak Park High School Pavilion - 9:00 am

Session #2: January 8, 2015 - Oak Park High School Pavilion - 8:45am

Session #3: March 12, 2015 - Oak Park High School Pavilion - 8:45am

Evening Session

DK - Grade 12 - December 1, 2014 - Oak Park High School Pavilion- 6:30 pm

DK - Grade 12 - January 7, 2015 - Oak Park High School Pavilion - 6:30 pm

DK - Grade 12 - March 16, 2015 - Oak Park High School Pavilion - 6:30 pm

Our presenter is Pam Carter, who is currently working with OPUSD teachers on standards implementation.

Pam Carter

Pam Carter received her BA in History and MA in Education from UCLA and her MA in Educational Administration from California State University, Northridge. She has a wealth of experience in public education and has served as a successful teacher, site and district level administrator, university instructor, grant writer, public speaker on successful school reform issues and most recently, an educational consultant. For much of her career, Pam has been actively involved in assisting schools and districts in their efforts to successfully implement school reform practices and assisting teachers implement effective teaching strategies. During her career Pam has worked with the International Center for Leadership in Education (ECLE) in promoting high school reform initiatives through the Successful Practices Network (SPN) and has worked with ConnectEd to enhance Career Technical Education to prepare students for both college and career in the 21st century. Pam has also worked with the California Department of Education with Specialized Secondary Program Grants and speaking around the state on the successful secondary school reform efforts.

Pam's work in a variety of leadership capacities allows her to work with diverse constituencies to improve public education in California. As an educational consultant, Pam provides leadership and professional development to schools and districts to improve staff learning and student achievement. Pam conducts professional development in the California Common Core State Standards, Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) and, successful advisory programs.