

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 19-32

(Commitment to Eliminating Common Core, Ensuring High-Quality Academic Standards and Raising the Bar for Civic Literacy)

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all Floridians to give our children a world-class education that fully prepares them for college and/or a career in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 1 of the Florida Constitution provides that the education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida and that it is a paramount duty of the state to make adequate provision for the education of children residing within its borders; and

WHEREAS, ensuring that Florida's Kindergarten through grade twelve academic standards are the best in the nation will require a thorough review, elimination of Common Core (Florida Standards) and revision of standards; and

WHEREAS, high-quality academic standards are the foundation of a high-quality system to which assessments and instructional materials must be aligned; and

WHEREAS, section 1000.03, F.S., states that the Florida's education system should ensure that "students are prepared to become civically engaged and knowledgeable adults who make positive contributions to their communities"; and

WHEREAS, section 1003.4156, F.S., requires Florida students in middle grades to complete a civics education statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment, which constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade; and

WHEREAS, section 1011.67, F.S., requires that beginning July 1, 2021, core reading and intervention materials for Kindergarten through grade five must be scientifically researched and

evidence-based and incorporate explicit, systematic and sequential approaches to teaching phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and text comprehension; and

WHEREAS, section 1003.41, F.S., establishes the content standards and charges the Commissioner of Education with a periodic review of the academic standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, I RON DESANTIS, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section (1)(a) of the Florida Constitution, and all other applicable laws, do hereby issue the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. By January 1, 2020, the Commissioner of Education shall comprehensively review Florida's Kindergarten through grade twelve academic standards and provide recommended revisions to the Governor. The recommendations shall:

- A. Articulate how Florida will eliminate Common Core (Florida Standards) and ensure we return to the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic;
- B. provide a roadmap to make Florida's standards number one in the nation;
- C. reflect the Commissioner's consultation with relevant stakeholders to include parents and teachers;
- D. deem how to increase the quality of instructional curriculum;
- E. suggest innovative ways to streamline testing;
- F. identify opportunities to equip high school graduates with sufficient knowledge of America's civics, particularly the principles reflected in the Unites States Constitution, so as to be capable of discharging the responsibilities associated with American citizenship; and
- G. outline a pathway for Florida to be the most literate state in the nation.

Section 2. The Commissioner shall ensure that the Department of Education is ready to act on these recommendations to the greatest extent possible upon approval of the Governor.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, this 31st day of January, 2019.


GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA