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## **News Release**

### ***Commissioner Dwight D. Jones: Colorado Leads National Discussion On Standards***

On the day that the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers released the first draft of K-12 standards, Commissioner of Education Dwight D. Jones said the results confirm that Colorado's recently revised standards set rigorous expectations that match or exceed national expectations in every instance.

"We are fortunate that Colorado started this work more than two years ago and we were equally privileged to have been guided in this process by Dr. Stanley Rabinowitz, a national expert who was also instrumental in creating the common core standards released today," said Commissioner Jones. "Dr. Rabinowitz encouraged us to aim high and we did, which our new standards demonstrate. In addition, our standards were developed in partnership with schools and communities across Colorado and the result is a reflection of their collective expectations that today's high school graduates be equipped at the highest level, when measured against international and national benchmarks, for 21st century career success, college success, or both."

The Colorado Department of Education was one of a handful of states invited to review and provide input during the early development of what was released today as part of the common core initiative.

The national, common core standards detail what public school students should learn in math and English only, year by year from kindergarten through high school. Colorado's revised academic

standards include 13 subjects and also articulate grade-by-grade expectations, beginning in pre-school.

The Council of Chief State School Offices (CCSSO) and the National Governors Association (NGA) are seeking public comment on the draft documents through Friday, April 2, 2010.

After CCSSO and NGA work groups have reviewed the feedback from the general public and state-led reviews, they will produce final documents, perhaps by late spring.

To view the draft documents from the common core initiative, and to submit feedback, visit <http://www.corestandards.org/>.

To view Colorado's revised standards, approved in December 2009, visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/UAS/CoAcademicStandards.html>

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