



San Diego Unified School District

Fact Sheet

California State Standards

To encourage the highest achievement of every student, San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) has formally adopted the California Department of Education's (CDE) Content Standards, which define the knowledge, concepts, and skills that students should acquire at each grade level. Parent handbooks, designed to help parents understand the standards used in our schools, are available on the CDE website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/pf/>.

The rigorous standards describe the content that students need to learn at each grade level (K-12) in the following subject areas:

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- History-Social Science
- Science
- Visual and Performing Arts: Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts
- English Language Development
- Physical Education

For subject areas not yet covered by the statewide standards, including Health Education and World Languages, the district's Standards, Assessment, and Accountability Division has worked with curriculum experts, school personnel, parents, and community members to develop district content standards aligned with state frameworks.

Content is designed with all students in mind, and it is expected that, given sufficient time, all students, except for a few who have significant disabilities, will be able to attain them. Specific information on standards in each subject area and grade is available on the CDE website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/>.

District curriculum, student-level assessment, textbooks, instructional materials, and professional development activities are all aligned with the standards. This ensures, among other benefits, that the knowledge students acquire in the classroom is directly related to the statewide assessments they take each year. State-mandated tests help measure student performance in relation to the expectations of the standards. More information on student testing is available on the district website at <http://www.sandi.net/indices/testscores.html>.

The standards ensure that SDUSD, as well as schools across the state, is providing a high-quality educational program. The standards answer the question "What should my child be learning?" with specific measures of knowledge, concepts, and skills for each student. Through the standards, the district is able to support its commitment to excellence and improved student achievement while maintaining rigorous curriculum and assessment methods. For more information, please visit the Standards, Assessment, and Accountability Division webpage at <http://studata.sandi.net/saa>.

SUMMARY

- ❖ The CDE Standards define the knowledge, concepts, and skills that students should acquire at each grade level.
- ❖ The standards are designed so that all students, except those with significant disabilities, will be able to attain them, given sufficient time.
- ❖ Students are tested on their mastery of the concepts outlined in the Standards through mandated, statewide assessment.
- ❖ By adopting state Standards, the district supports its commitment to excellence and improved student achievement.

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