



# **CCS Draft Benchmarks**

**Staff Meeting, March 29, 2011**



# What are Benchmarks?

***Benchmarks:*** set of expectations about what knowledge students will obtain, what skills they will possess, and what attributes for life long learning they will gain as a result of attending CCS



# Why is the board developing Benchmarks?

\*Helps to answer the questions:

What benefit should students receive as a result of attending CCS?

How do we know they are receiving those benefits?

\*Maintains focus on student outcomes

\*Allows the board to plan for the future



## **BOARD**

**“WHAT”**

Develops Benchmarks and monitors indicators

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**“HOW”**

Develops plan to meet Benchmarks and provides monitoring data



# How did the board come up with the draft Benchmarks?

January 2010-March 2011

## Work Sessions

- ❖ Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning
- ❖ Sample Ends: South Burlington, Essex Town, Orange Southwest SU, Montpelier, Connecticut, Ohio, Texas
- ❖ *Boards that Make a Difference*, John Carver



# How will Benchmarks be measured?

Once Benchmarks are finalized, indicators need to be defined that will measure our progress.

## Example

Benchmark: Students have the knowledge, skills and tools to be prepared for the next stage of their lives

1. Foundational Knowledge: Students possess comprehensive knowledge of a core curriculum in the following areas:

1.1 Reading

Indicators: DRP, NECAP, etc



# Draft Benchmarks

Students will graduate from CCS demonstrating readiness for future success in high school, as seen in the following areas:

1. Robust Academic Foundation
2. Citizenship
3. Life Skills



## **Robust Academic Foundation**

1. Students will be active and responsible learners.  
Students will be able to achieve their full potential.

A. Students will understand and embrace their own learning style, and will respect the different learning styles of their peers.

B. Students will be self-directed independent thinkers willing and able to accept challenges and take risks in learning.

1) Students will be able to continuously acquire new knowledge and skills, monitor individual learning needs, and are able to learn from their own mistakes.

2) Students will be able to critically assess, interpret, and communicate information.

2. Students will demonstrate continuous academic advancement with the goal of meeting or exceeding State and national performance standards. This includes Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, World Language, Physical Education, Health, Guidance, and the Fine and Performing Arts.



## **Citizenship**

1. Students will be responsible and productive participants in their classrooms, school, local and global communities.
  - A. Students will respect people and property, and will respond to direction in a positive manner.
  - B. Students will be able to share, negotiate solutions to problems, embrace diversity, and have respect for multiple viewpoints.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the economic, political, environmental and cultural realities occurring on a local and global scale and how these are interrelated.

## Life Skills

1. Students will demonstrate and understand the skills, knowledge, work habits, attitudes, and teamwork required for success in the classroom, school, local and global communities.

A. Students will articulate thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written and nonverbal communication skills in a variety of forms and contexts.

1) Students will use communication to inform, instruct, motivate and persuade.

2) Students will develop clear and effective communication and listening skills.

B. Students will have the social skills to be successful in groups of increasing complexity and diversity.

1) Students will be able to work independently and as a member of a team.

2) Students will understand, negotiate and balance diverse views and beliefs to build relationships and reach workable solutions.

3) Students will be able to solve problems in innovative, collaborative, and creative ways.



**Life Skills cont.**

- C. Students will demonstrate the aptitude, attitude, skills, behaviors, and self esteem to lead responsible, healthy, fulfilling, and respectful lives.
  - 1) Students will demonstrate adaptability, resiliency and the ability to embrace change.
  - 2) Students will deal positively with praise, setbacks and criticism.
  - 3) Students will demonstrate an understanding of how nutrition, exercise and athletics, creative outlets, self reflection and personal relationships contribute to a healthy, balanced and positive life.



# What are the next steps in the process?

1. Staff input on draft Benchmarks via google survey
2. Board reworks draft Benchmarks
3. Community forum to provide input on Benchmarks
4. Board finalizes Benchmarks
5. Begin identifying indicators to monitor progress towards meeting Benchmarks