

David Bonner, Teacher, Starpoint Middle School

"As one of few teachers across the state that teaches BOTH ELA and Math at the 6th grade level, let me state that the CCLS are just fine. In my 28 years of experience in the classroom, I say that raising the bar never hurts. BUT, the modules are just horrible. The modules are what teachers are being asked to implement within the daily classroom. The standards are intertwined within the modules. Ask most, and they couldn't tell you what the actual CCLS is within the lesson each day, but instead they are overwhelmed with the state modules. I have a full 3 years of teaching the state modules in both content areas as directed by my building principal. They are overly written. Some lessons are 15-24 pages in length to sift through to get the GIST of what the module is asking. Our grade level here at Starpoint averages around 15 years of teaching experience. That's a solid group to look at. The modules are way to long, rife with spelling mistakes and "example" errors. In addition, has anyone thought about developing a simplified module for parents to view in order to assist at home? How about a substitute making sense of a module while walking into a classroom first thing in the morning? Not a chance in hell a substitute can pull that off with any validity to the module content. Especially when faced with teaching multiple subjects in most cases each day. The problem is NOT the CCLS. The tools to implement the CCLS, the MODULES, are again horrible."