



North Dakotans
FOR
**student
success**



North Dakota Academic Content Standards What Parents Need to Know

This guide provides an overview of what your child will learn by the end of high school in English. It focuses on the key knowledge and skills your child will learn in these subjects, which will build a strong foundation for success in the other subjects he or she studies throughout the school year. By the end of high school, your child will learn and refined the skills that will be necessary for success in career-training programs, community colleges, universities, and ultimately the workforce.

What are the North Dakota Academic Standards?

The North Dakota Academic Standards, were analyzed, annotated, and approved by North Dakota teachers and community leaders, and are based on the Common Core State Standards. The North Dakota Academic Standards set clear and consistent expectations for students, parents, and teachers on the knowledge and skills our students will learn in school. If your child meets the expectations outlined in these standards, he or she should be well prepared for college or a career beyond high school.

Setting standards for what students should know at the end of each year is important because it helps ensure that when students are ready to move to the next

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grade level or when they might be falling behind, allows schools and parents to help students catch up rather than give up. The North Dakota Academic Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed.

In addition to setting academic goals, the North Dakota Academic Standards emphasize the ability to collaborate and communicate effectively. These skills will help your child gain the critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are valuable in life, both in relationships and in the workplace.

What is my child learning this year?

To become ready for college and career, high school students learn to evaluate intricate arguments and surmount the challenges posed by complex written materials independently and confidently. Through wide and deep reading of literature and literary nonfiction of steadily increasing sophistication, students expand their literary and cultural knowledge and better understand references and images. They also develop the flexibility, concentration, and fluency to produce high-quality, first drafts of writing under tight deadlines. Students master the essential “rules” of standard written and spoken English and resolve usage issues by consulting style and usage guides. By writing and participating in a variety of conversations, they assert and defend claims and show what they know about a subject using appropriate examples and evidence.



The following is a sample of what your child will be learning this year. Use this list with your child's teacher to set goals and identify when your child needs help or a greater challenge. You can also talk to your child's teacher about how you can supplement your child's learning at home.

Reading

- Understand more from and make fuller use of written materials, including using a wider range of evidence to support an analysis.
- Evaluate arguments and specific claims, assess whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is sufficient, and as appropriate, detect inconsistencies and ambiguities.
- Analyze the meaning of foundational U.S. documents (the Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights).
- Writing
- Make an argument that is logical, well-reasoned, and supported by evidence.
- Write a literary analysis, report, or summary that develops a central idea and a coherent focus and is well supported with relevant examples, facts, and details.
- Conduct several research projects that address different aspects of the same topic, using more complex books, articles, and other sources.
- Speaking and Listening
- Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives; synthesize comments, claims, and evidence made on all sides of an issue; and resolve contradictions.
- Share research, findings, and evidence clearly and concisely.

Help Your Child Learn at Home

As your children get older, it is critical to continue to stay engaged in their education. You can stay engaged by asking questions and ensuring your student is completing his work on time. Here are some examples of questions to ask your child:

1. Tell me about your assignment.
2. When is it due?
3. How did you feel about this assignment?
What are you finding most challenging?
4. Do you have the tools and resources you need to complete it?
5. What skills are you learning through this assignment that will help you be successful in the future?
6. Can I see your completed project?

What resources are available to help my child?

Be A Learning Hero—Contains helpful tips for families and resources in math and English language arts that can be used at home to support students.

» www.bealearninghero.org/

Great Schools Videos—Watch grade-level and content-specific videos of learning in action.

» www.greatschools.org/gk/milestones

Scholastic Parent Page—Offers book recommendations, homework help, and more to make learning fun.

» www.scholastic.com/parents

Parent Toolkit – This toolkit will help you navigate your child's journey from pre-kindergarten through high school. It is designed to help you track and support progress at each stage

» www.parenttoolkit.com

North Dakota Academic Content Standards – North Dakota's Academic Content Standards are available in English and Math as well as other subject areas.

» www.nd.gov/dpi/students-parents/standards/