

PBS TeacherLine® Aligns Courses to Common Core State Standards

Professional development courses and resources designed to help educators during transition to new standards

ARLINGTON, Va. (Jan. 12, 2012) – As states implement Common Core State Standards for English language arts and mathematics, educators face substantial challenges adapting their instruction to match the new framework. The standards have been approved in 45 states and the District of Columbia, and many districts are planning to implement strategies in the upcoming school year that migrate instruction, curriculum and assessment to the new standards. To help educators prepare for upcoming changes, PBS TeacherLine has aligned its online professional development courses with Common Core State Standards.

The alignment means that PBS TeacherLine reading/language arts and mathematics courses provide professional development training and resources that help teachers develop lessons and deliver instruction based on Common Core State Standards and meet students' individual needs. Teachers can better gauge student progress in mastering the standards and modify instruction to address weaknesses and accelerate achievement.

"Teachers have important new challenges as well as opportunities implementing the Common Core State Standards, so it's critical that their professional development support system reflect the new reality they face," said Rob Lippincott, PBS senior vice president for education. "PBS TeacherLine is dedicated to providing educators a 21st century set of experiences and resources as they transition to a 21st century set of standards and expectations."

PBS TeacherLine offers more than 80 graduate-level courses in reading/language arts, mathematics, science, STEM, instructional strategies, and technology integration. PBS TeacherLine works to anticipate educators' needs, continuously modifying its resources and course offerings to address prevalent education trends. In response to the heightened importance placed on climate change and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education, PBS TeacherLine worked with NASA to create a series of full online courses and shorter modules that help educators integrate digital media resources into classroom instruction to capture students' interest and reinforce important academic concepts.

With the Common Core State Standards alignment, PBS TeacherLine courses now offer educators professional development suited for the new era of education standards in the United States. The Common Core State Standards provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that the nation's young people need for success in college and careers.

About PBS TeacherLine

PBS TeacherLine is committed to helping teachers acquire the skills they need to prepare students for a successful future. PBS TeacherLine provides high-quality, affordable professional development for preK-12 educators through facilitated, online courses, collaborative learning communities, and exemplary Internet-based resources. Currently, more than 80 courses across multiple subject areas are offered. Teachers can earn continuing education units, professional

development points, and graduate credits for course completion. The courses have been developed in conjunction with leading education organizations, including the Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL), Concord Consortium, and International Society for Technology in Education. For more information, visit www.pbs.org/teacherline.

About PBS

PBS, with its nearly 360 member stations, offers all Americans – from every walk of life – the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content. Each month, PBS reaches more than 118 million people through television and nearly 21 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS' broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS' premier children's TV programming and its Web site, pbskids.org, are parents' and teachers' most trusted partners in inspiring and nurturing curiosity and love of learning in children. More information about PBS is available at pbs.org, one of the leading dot-org websites on the Internet, or by following PBS on Twitter, Facebook or through our apps for mobile devices. Specific program information and updates for press are available at pbs.org/pressroom or by following PBSPressroom on Twitter.

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Media contacts:

- Marcia Foster, PBS TeacherLine, 703-739-8106, mdfoster@pbs.org
- Kristen Plemon, C. Blohm & Associates, Inc., 608-839-9805, kristen@cblohm.com