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Interviews: 1,015 teachers
Dates: February 28 - March 4, 2014

FINAL

Study #11101a
Gates CCSS Survey
February/March 2014

24 Male 76 Female [109]

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

1a. First, are you currently employed as a teacher?

Yes, employed as a teacher	100	CONTINUE	[138]
No, not employed as a teacher.....	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure.....	-		

1b. Which of the following best describes your school?

A regular public school.....	98	CONTINUE	[139]
A charter school.....	2		
A private school	-	TERMINATE	
A parochial school	-		
Another type of school	-		
Not sure	-		

1c. What kind of school do you work in?

Pre-school/nursery school	-	TERMINATE	[140]
Elementary school	42		
K-through-eight school	8	CONTINUE	
Junior high/middle school	21		
Senior high school	28		
Other.....	1	TERMINATE	
Not sure/refused	-		

2. In what age group are you?

Under thirty	21	[148]
Age thirty to thirty-nine.....	23	
Age forty to forty-nine	23	
Age fifty to fifty-nine	22	
Age sixty and over	10	
Refused	1	

3. Counting this year, how many years altogether have you worked as a teacher?

1 year or less	1	[149]
2 to 3 years.....	6	
4 to 5 years.....	12	
6 to 10 years.....	21	
11 to 15 years.....	18	
16 to 20 years.....	15	
21 to 25 years.....	10	
More than 25 years.....	17	
Not sure.....	-	

4. And just as your best guess, how many years more after this one do you think you will be working as a school teacher? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well, in which range would you fit?

1 year or less	7	[150-151]
2 years.....	5	
3 years.....	3	
4 years.....	3	
5 years.....	7	
6 to 10 years.....	19	
11 to 15 years.....	13	
16 to 20 years.....	13	
More than 20 years.....	24	
Not sure	6	

5. For statistical purposes only, are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NO" OR "NOT SURE," ASK:)** What is your race—white, African American, Asian, or something else?

White	82	[152/153]
African American	7	
Hispanic.....	6	
Asian	1	
Other (VOL).....	3	
Not sure/refused	1	

6. How would you describe the area in which the school you work at is located—a large city, a medium-to-small city, a suburb near a city, a small town that is not near a city, or a rural or country area?

Large city.....	17	[154]
Medium-to-small city.....	21	
Suburb.....	23	
Small town.....	18	
Rural.....	21	
Don't know/refused.....	-	

- 7a. In general, how satisfied are you with your job as a teacher—very satisfied, satisfied, not very satisfied, not at all satisfied?

	<u>2-3/14</u>	<u>7/13</u> ¹	
Very satisfied.....	38	38	[155]
Satisfied	48	51	
Not very satisfied.....	10	10	
Not at all satisfied.....	3	1	
Not sure	1	-	

¹ Trend comes from "Primary Sources," a survey conducted for Scholastic and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

- 7b. Thinking about the school where you work, how would you rate the quality of education and level of student achievement in your school today—excellent, good, just adequate, not so good, or poor?

	<u>2-3/14</u>	<u>12/09</u>	
Excellent	36	39	[156]
Good	43	41	
Just adequate.....	16	15	
Not so good.....	3	3	
Poor	1	1	
Not sure	1	1	

I would like to ask you a few questions about the Common Core State Standards, a set of academic standards in English language arts and math for students in grades K through twelve that have been adopted in most states.

8a. Based on what you know about these standards, do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove of your state's adoption of the Common Core State Standards?

Strongly approve	19	[157]
Somewhat approve	42	
Somewhat disapprove.....	20	
Strongly disapprove	13	
Not sure.....	6	
Total Approve	62	
Total Disapprove	32	

8b. Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove of the way your district is implementing the Common Core State Standards?

Strongly approve	20	[158]
Somewhat approve	46	
Somewhat disapprove.....	17	
Strongly disapprove	11	
Not sure.....	6	
Total Approve	66	
Total Disapprove	28	

9a. Based on what you have heard, read, or seen over the past year, would you say that your feelings toward the Common Core State Standards have become more favorable, less favorable, or stayed about the same over the past year?

More favorable	18	CONTINUE	[159]
Less favorable	32		
Stayed about the same	49	Skip to Q.10a	
Not sure.....	1		

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY MORE OR LESS FAVORABLE IN Q.9a)

9b. What have you heard, read, or seen over the past year that has made you (more/less favorable) toward the Common Core standards?

(PROBE:) Have you learned anything else over the past year that changed the way you feel about the standards? **[160-166]** *

Net More Favorable	40%	Net Less Favorable	59%
Good concept/like it/working/seen the difference/familiar with it	8	Expectations too high/unrealistic/inflexible/hard to reach for students	12
Had training/professional leader of CC in building	8	Test driven, Common Core has increased testing	11
Working with standards, getting used to the new programs	4	Dumbs down the kids, not learning, decrease learning	7
School in the process of implementation	4	Too hard/difficult/for the students/too rigorous for age groups	5
Exactly what my students needed/geared to kids	3	Too much to learn/too fast/too quick/not enough lead time	4
		Don't know, no response	1%

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY MORE OR LESS FAVORABLE IN Q.9a.)

9c. Where have you seen, heard, or read about the Common Core standards?

(PROBE:) From what specific sources have you seen, heard, or read anything about the Common Core standards over the past year? [167-173] **

Articles in newspapers, magazines, reading about it	37%
Online, emails, internet	28
Colleagues, other teachers, word of mouth at school	13
Attended workshops, seminars	9
Professional development meetings/conversations	9
School, through the school system	8
Department of Education website	7
Radio, TV	5
Facebook, social media	5
Professional journals	5
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Criticisms of Common Core	8
All others	14
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Don't know; no response	1%

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

10. Do you think the Common Core State Standards are living up to the goals that were set for them when they were first adopted, not living up to the goals set for them, or is it too soon to tell?

Living up to the goals.....	6	[174]
Not living up to the goals	23	
Too soon to tell	68	
Not sure	3	

11. Now thinking specifically about how your district is implementing the Common Core standards, would you say that your district is doing an excellent, good, just fair, or poor job of **(READ ITEM)**?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY EXCELLENT/GOOD

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Just Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Communicating with teachers about how the standards are changing and what will be expected of them	15	39	28	15	3	[232/ 238]
Providing teachers with professional development and training related to the new standards.....	16	33	31	18	2	[233/ 239]
Putting the necessary time, energy, and emphasis on implementing the standards to ensure a smooth transition *.....	13	32	31	22	2	[234]
Giving teachers the tools and resources they need to prepare to teach the new standards in their classrooms	11	28	31	27	3	[230/ 236]
Giving schools enough time to implement the standards	8	30	30	28	4	[231/ 237]
Communicating with parents about how standards are changing and what will be expected of students	8	27	32	26	7	[229/ 235]
Giving teachers an opportunity to provide their input on the implementation of the standards, including the selection of curriculum **	8	26	28	32	6	[240]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

FACTUALS: Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

F1. Are you a member of any union or employees' organization at your job?

Yes, union member	72	[312]
No, not a union member	25	
Not sure	3	

F2. Did you take the traditional path into teaching by getting a bachelor's or graduate degree in teaching, or did you receive an alternative certification?

Traditional path to teaching	84	[313]
Alternative certification	12	
Not sure	4	

F3. What subject(s) or field(s) do you teach?

Art/music/theater	11	[314-315]
English as a second language	10	>
English/English language arts/writing	32	
Foreign language (Spanish, French, other language)	4	
History	16	
Math	38	
Science	33	
Social studies	26	
Special education	16	
Other (VOL)	22	
Not sure	4	

F4a. Which of the following best describes the economic background of most of the students in your school--poor, working class or lower-middle class, middle class, or upper-middle class?

Poor	27	[316]
Working class or lower-middle class	39	
Middle class	17	
Upper-middle class	8	
Wealthy/affluent (VOL)	-	
All/mixed (VOL)	5	
Not sure	4	

F4b. In your best estimate, what percentage of students at your school receive free or reduced lunch? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well, in which range would you estimate?

Less than 10%	9	[317]
10% to 25%	13	
26% to 50%	22	
51% to 75%	23	
More than 75%	26	
Not sure	7	

F4c. In the past school year, how many students in your regular classes were classified as **(READ ITEM)**--the majority, many but not a majority, a few, or none?

	The Majority	Many But Not A Majority	A Few	None	Not Sure	
ELL, or English Language Learner	6	12	50	26	6	[318]
Special needs	7	23	59	6	5	[319]

F5. Is your school considered to be low performing in terms of students' reaching the state or district standards?

Yes, considered to be low performing.....	21	[320]
No, not considered to be low performing	72	
Not sure	7	

F8. Do you currently have any children living in your home who are enrolled in kindergarten or grades one through twelve? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "YES," HAVE CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12, ASK:)** And do any of your children attend a public school?

Yes--attend public school	34	[326/327]
Yes--do not attend public school	3	
Yes--not sure	-	
No, do not have children in grades K-12	59	
Not sure	4	