Change is a' Commin'

In August 2010 California abandoned the 1997 California Math Standards and along with 45 other states adopted the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. The new California Common Core State Standards for Mathematics are very different from old 1997 Standards, notably for the inclusion of the eight Standards of Mathematical Practice and a new emphasis on Focus, Coherence, and Rigor in the grade level Mathematical Content Standards.

As a next step in implementing these new Standards, a 19-member commission met from September through February producing a Draft Mathematics Framework, which has been received by the Instruction Quality Commission and will shortly be posted for public comment. Some features of the new Framework are:

• Fewer topics are to be taught in each grade K-6, where standard algorithms are delayed for mastery of concept.

• A rigorous curriculum middle grades curriculum is adopted for grades 7 and 8 that includes about 1/3 of the High School Algebra 1 Course and 1/5 of High School Geometry.

• Geometry is based on transformations as in the Erlanger Program.

• Mathematical Modeling is given equally weight with Geometry in High School.

• As much as 60% of Gen Ed Statistics may be taught by 11th Grade.

• Two curricula for Grades 9, 10, and 11 are presented, one Integrated modeled roughly on Singapore or Hong Kong, one "Traditional" that preserves the names (but not the content) of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II

• Both High School curricula cove exactly the same Content Standards

The State Testing And Reporting (STAR) program sunsets July 1, 2014, and California has committed, in 2015, to use a new computer-adaptive assessment being developed by SMARTER BALANCED, a Federally funded testing consortium of 23 states. This assessment will NOT be multiple choice and will include assessment projects worked on for a matter of hours or days. What happens with the CASHEE and the Algebra I High School Graduation Requirement will require legislative action.

The CTC has convened a panel to set new Testing Standards for the CSET exams. The new examinations are to be given in Fall 2014. The new standards include more probability and statistics, transformational Euclidean Geometry, and delete History of Math. Waiver Programs will need to be rewritten and reapproved.

All High School courses aligned with the new California Common Core State Standards will need to be submitted to BOARS for area "c" certification.