

## What is CLASP?

The CLASP project is a consortium of districts across Massachusetts that work together to develop and share curriculum aligned to Frameworks.

CLASP districts use a software database tool, the Curriculum Sharing and Support Tool (CST), to build, align, and share curriculum.

## Why CLASP?

Taking a standards-based approach to education involves a paradigm shift in the focus of schools. The focus of curriculum is no longer “what teachers teach” but instead what students know and are able to do. This is a complex process, and no single district has all the expertise in all subject areas. Every district is working to ensure that their curriculum is aligned to state standards, and especially, that student learning is happening.

CLASP is built on the premise that sharing all districts’ experience and curriculum will make every district’s local curriculum stronger. Through CLASP, districts can:

- Learn from the experience of other districts in building standards-based curriculum;
- View and build on other districts’ local guidelines;
- Gain statewide recognition for excellence in curriculum by sharing materials with the CLASP consortium.

## What do I need to run the CLASP software?

The CLASP database software can run on any PC or Macintosh computer as a stand-alone application, without additional software. The software is free of charge upon application to the CLASP project.

## How do I participate in CLASP?

To join CLASP, submit an application, signed by your superintendent. You will receive a password to download and use the CST software. CLASP districts commit representatives to monthly CLASP meetings and other special events. In addition, districts agree to submit their aligned and approved curriculum materials to the statewide database for the benefit of all CLASP districts. For more information contact:

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In Partnership with:  
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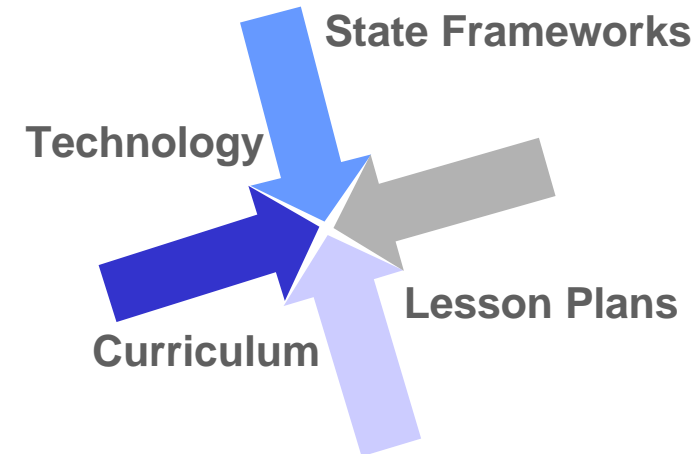
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# CLASP

Curriculum Library Alignment and Sharing Project



**CLASP** educators learn from each other through sharing and building better curriculum together.

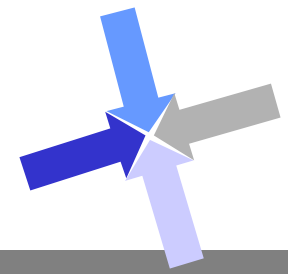
Visit the CLASP Web Site:  
<http://www.massnetworks.org/clasp/clasp.html>

The CLASP Project was showcased at:



# Districts Build, Align, and Share Curriculum

The CLASP Curriculum Sharing and Support Tool (CST) has two functions:



## A Curriculum Development Tool

### Local Curriculum Guidelines

- The CST walks your curriculum team through the process of writing a curriculum guideline aligned to the state Frameworks.
- You do not have to be experts in curriculum development. The tool helps you learn along the way and supports your district's existing curriculum processes.
- The CST template provides your team with the information necessary to make sound decisions, including state standards, MCAS data, examples of other districts' curriculum, and related instructional resources.

### Lesson Plans

- Planning classroom activity in a standards-based environment is complex and requires information from many sources. The CST lesson plan template furnishes teachers with the information they need, just when they need it.
- The CST helps teachers develop interdisciplinary technology-rich lesson plans tied to district objectives, and aligned to the state Frameworks.
- The CST illustrates the relationships between state standards for student learning, district guidelines, classroom activities and student learning outcomes.

## A Library of Curriculum Resources

### State Standards

- The CST is built on an electronic version of the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks documents.
- The CST brings together each standard, related component of the Frameworks (such as guiding principles, habits of mind, core knowledge topics, recommended patterns of instruction), and associated MCAS sample question for easy viewing.

### District Curriculum Guidelines

- The CST allows you to visually compare your curriculum with other districts'.
- The CST is designed to encourage collaboration amongst districts in building curriculum. You can cut, paste, import, or modify curriculum from several sources to meet your district's needs.

### MCAS Data

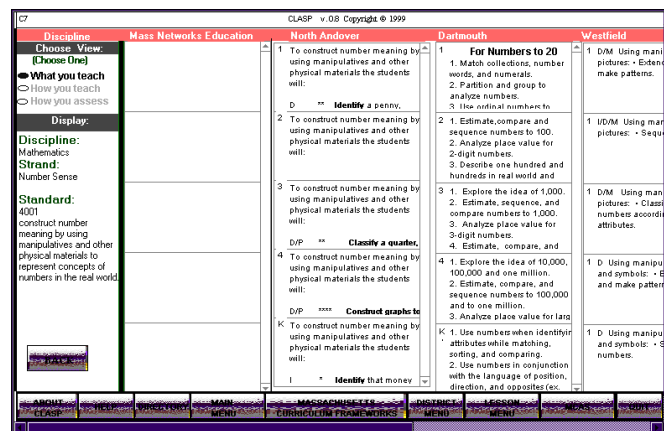
- Public MCAS results are organized in the CST to help districts make data-driven curriculum decisions. This includes item-by-item analyses of each MCAS test by grade and subject.
- The CST permits you to import the confidential individual student results from the CD-ROM furnished to superintendents by the Department of Education.
- The MCAS module illustrates the relationship between MCAS questions, state standards, local curriculum, and state, district and student MCAS results.

### Lesson Plans

- Educators can access a database of expanded lesson plans developed by and for teachers, aligned to district guidelines and to Frameworks.

### Instructional Resources

- Teachers and curriculum teams can identify primary source materials, web sites, articles, literature and software aligned to specific strands and standards to use in classroom and curriculum planning.



A screen shot from the CST viewing several districts' curricula in Number Sense.