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Literacy Resource Bank Developed to Help
Nation’s Urban School Districts Implement New Academic Standards

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 – The Council of the Great City Schools and Student
Achievement Partners (SAP) today announced a new online resource aimed at helping school
districts nationwide implement the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and
literacy, one of two major components of the new academic standards adopted by 46 states and
the District of Columbia.

The resource bank includes a compilation of questions and tasks aligned to the new
common core standards in English language arts (ELA) and literacy that can be used to help
school districts transition to the new standards.

In an initiative called the Basal Alignment Project (BAP), literacy educators from states
across the country came together to write the standards-aligned materials and questions that
teachers and administrators can use in conjunction with their current curriculum while new
instructional products are being developed.

The project was spearheaded by the Council, which represents the nation’s largest urban
public school systems, and coordinated by Student Achievement Partners (SAP), a non-profit
group whose founders were instrumental in writing the new standards in English language arts.

“Revisions to current ELA curricula to help teachers transition to the Common Core State
Standards have been an ongoing, intensive, cooperative effort by dozens of districts, states, and
school-district content specialists, and SAP,” says Council Executive Director Michael Casserly.
“Their work is freely available to all school districts in the nation.”

The Council and SAP have also worked with publishers to roll out the first wave of new
resources, which focus on grades three, four and five. The basalts that are included in the first
round of materials are Houghton Mifflin Harcourt’s Medallion, Reading, StoryTown, and
Trophies; McGraw-Hill’s Imagine It!, Open Court and Treasures; and Pearson’s Reading Street.

The new bank of resources is located at “Basal Alignment Project” on the education site
School districts, publishers, education organizations and others can link to the site or download and adapt materials that can be widely available to teachers and students in all the Common Core states and districts. When an account is created on Edmodo, the group code “etuym” must be used to join the Basal Alignment Project group. Project partners will also continue to refine and add materials to the site.

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