K-12 OER Collaborative Curriculum vs. Published Curriculum

Materials created by the K-12 OER Collaborative will include all of the useful elements from commercial textbook companies as well as all of the advantages of openly-licensed materials, with significant cost savings. By sharing and adapting OER, content acquisition costs can be cut dramatically, allowing schools to make better use of available resources, shifting funds to professional learning or technology purchases as needed.

LEAs that make advance market commitments to enable the development of K-12 OER Collaborative materials will contribute a percentage of the savings realized by adopting the open materials. With this advance market commitment, LEA's will also be given membership in the Collaborative and will be able to directly influence the work of the project as it moves forward.

Item	K-12 OER COLLABORATIVE	Commercial Textbook/Online Materials
A complete set of instructional materials for the given grade levels and subject area(s).	Free	Purchase
Teacher Materials		
Brief unit overviews detailing alignment with specific standards. For mathematics resources, identification of the clusters and Standards for Mathematical Practice addressed by each unit.	Free	Purchase
Instructional adaptations for students with varying needs (e.g., special needs, English language learners, highly capable).	Free	Purchase
Questions that elicit high cognitive demand, reasoning, and productive student discourse.	Free	Purchase
User's guide focused on the structure, content, features, and functions of the materials with a help feature where users can find answers to specific problems they encounter in navigating and accessing the materials.	Free	Purchase
A coherent assessment strategy, including performance tasks with student work examples, formative assessments, unit-level summative assessments, and rubrics to help teachers understand and interpret student performance.	Free	Purchase
Interactive and multimedia elements, where appropriate, that support quality	Free	Purchase

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teaching and learning.		
Grade-level appropriate resources and strategies to help families support students with their learning and homework.	Free	Maybe for purchase; many textbooks don't contain these.
English Language Arts/Literacy only:		
Appropriately complex text sets (with text complexity analyses).	Free	Purchase
Supporting text-dependent questions, questioning strategies, and aligned writing tasks.	Free	Purchase
Mathematics only:		
Problem sets with solutions, and student work samples and outcomes	Free	Purchase
Online access and download of materials	Free	Lease. If a district doesn't renew the lease, they lose access to the materials.
Supplemental Resources		
Classroom textbook sets	Materials can be printed if desired.	Yes
Classroom workbook sets	Materials can be printed if desired.	Yes
Initial teacher professional development	Teacher PD strategy is to be determined, but there will be some PD options available.	Maybe

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Manipulatives	When appropriate, virtual manipulatives are included. Concrete tools to support visual and physical interaction with content are not.	Maybe
Additional Information		
Aligned to state standards	Yes. Materials are being developed that will closely align to math and ELA state standards.	No. Based on EdReports and other reviews of materials, most commercial products aren't well aligned to standards.
License	Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY).	All rights reserved by the publisher.
Adapt/update/modify materials at will	Yes. As these are openly-licensed materials, districts have the legal right to modify them without asking permission.	No. The materials are fully copyrighted, and districts do not have the right to make any changes.
Ability to incorporate improvements made by others	Yes. As openly-licensed materials, teachers from around the country will refine and improve them over time, and everyone can benefit.	No. Printed materials will be completely static. Online materials may be improved over time, if ongoing licensing fees are paid.
Retain copies	Yes. Districts can retain	If the materials are

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		copies of and iterate on the materials as long as they want.	printed, districts can retain them until the books are unusable. If the materials are online, then districts generally lose access unless an annual licensing fee is paid.
Printing costs		If print is desired. To save costs, districts may consider an on-demand print service.	Districts would pay for printed materials a part of the upfront purchase, and pay for additional consumables yearly.
Technology (devices, infrastructure) purchases		Funded in part by cost savings from adopting OER.	Additional costs on top of curriculum purchases.
Ongoing district professional development and professional learning communities		Funded in part by cost savings from adopting OER.	Additional costs on top of curriculum purchases.
Ability to use on multiple platforms (learning management systems)		Yes. The materials will be available in multiple formats and on multiple platforms. Districts will be able to choose the options that work best for them.	Probably not. Most commercial products are available only on the publisher's proprietary system.

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