What are the challenges of having computer science standards?

One reason of having national standards is to create consistency in the educational system. NCLB standards have been highly successful because they are clear and provide expectations for student learning. However, national standards can also be problematic. They can be difficult to implement and may not always be relevant to a specific state's unique needs. Standards can also be a source of controversy as they may clash with local values and beliefs.

Why are standards important?

National standards are important because they provide clear expectations for what students should learn. They also help to ensure that all students, regardless of where they live, are prepared for college and careers. Standards also provide a common language for teachers, parents, and policymakers to talk about what students should be learning.

Can standards support equity and access?

Yes, standards can support equity and access. By having clear expectations, all students have a chance to succeed. Standards also provide a framework for policymakers to design programs and policies that support equity.

Who else has CS standards?

States such as Massachusetts, Texas, and California have developed their own standards. The Massachusetts standards are aligned with Common Core, while the Texas standards are not. California's standards are focused on preparing students for STEM fields.

What about national standards in CS?

The Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) has developed national standards for computer science education. These standards are designed to help students develop computational thinking and problem-solving skills. They also emphasize the importance of equity and access in computer science education.

Are there alternatives to statewide CS standards?

Yes, there are alternatives to statewide CS standards. One alternative is to have voluntary model standards. California is an example of a state that has voluntarily adopted model standards. Another alternative is to have central instructional materials. These materials can provide guidance to teachers on how to implement the standards.

CSTA standards help CS standards align with the information Communication Technology Standards for Career Technical Education. Should CS standards be aligned with the Common Core?