Falmouth Middle School
7th grade Research Standards

Asking Questions
Formulate thick research questions based on a topic or area of study. *(Thick questions ask why, how, what are the effects, etc…)*
Refine questions depending on the type of information needed.
Identifying Sources
Locate print and online sources to answer the research questions.
Use keyword searching techniques to locate information online.
Apply advanced searching techniques with support.
Use a variety of online sources including databases, online encyclopedias, e-books and websites.
Evaluating Information
Evaluate print and online sources for authority, accuracy, currency, relevancy and bias. (Apply the CAARP test.)
Select a variety of credible sources in different formats to meet research needs.
Reading, Writing and Organizing Information
Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources.
Identify both facts and opinions in print and digital sources.
Follow ethical and legal guidelines in gathering & using information. Paraphrase or use keywords when taking notes.
Identify main and supporting ideas, point of view or bias, and conflicting information.
Organize knowledge so that it is useful based on the topic and the project. (Ex: Create a graphic organizer.)
Synthesizing Information
Apply critical thinking skills to information and knowledge in order to construct new understandings and create new knowledge.
Communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats.

Digital Citizenship
Respect copyright and intellectual property.
Use Creative Commons and copyright-friendly images.
Create bibliographies of works cited in MLA format with support from the teacher.
Cite images and photos including the title of the photo, name of the photographer and type of Creative Commons license.
Work Habits
Seek additional resources when clear conclusions cannot be drawn.
Display emotional resilience by persisting in information searching despite challenges.
Reflect on the research process and self-assess using the rubric or project guidelines.

based on the AASL Standards, ISTE Standards for Students and the Common Core State Standards