

C: Standards-based Student Learning: Instruction

C1. Instruction Criterion with Indicators

To achieve the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results, all students are involved in challenging learning experiences.

INDICATORS

Results of Student Observations and Examining Work

The school's observations of student working and the examining of student work provide information on the degree to which all students are involved in learning to assist them in achieving the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results. The school, particularly, has evaluated the degree of involvement in the learning of students with diverse backgrounds and abilities and modified approaches based on findings.

Student Understanding of Performance Levels

The students know beforehand the standards/expected performance levels for each area of study.

Differentiation of Instruction

The school's instructional staff members differentiate instruction and evaluate its impact on student learning.

Student Perceptions

The students understand the expected level of performance based on the standards and the schoolwide learning results. Through interviews and dialogue with students that represent the school populations, the school learns about the students' perceptions of their learning experiences.

C1. Curriculum: Other Findings

The visiting committee considers other information that impacts the degree to which the school is meeting this criterion.

C1. Instruction Criterion Suggested Evidence to Examine

❖ Guide Questions: To what extent:

- are all students involved in challenging learning experiences to achieve the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results?

❖ Suggested evidence to examine:

- observation of students working and student work that illustrates the extent to which all students are involved in learning to assist them in achieving the academic standards and expected schoolwide learning results (examples of students working includes: oral presentations, individual and group work, discussions, investigations and experiments, performances; examples of student work include: essays, reports, project products, journals, portfolios, open-ended responses, tests)
- the extent to which students know beforehand the standard/expected performance levels for each area of study
- the extent to which differentiation of instruction is occurring and its impact on student learning
- student interviews which illustrate the extent to which students recognize the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results and the expected level of performance
- the degree of involvement in the learning of students with diverse backgrounds and abilities
- other evidence identified by the school

C1. Instruction Criterion with Sample Prompts

To what extent are all students involved in challenging learning experiences to achieve the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results?

SAMPLE PROMPTS**Results of Student Observations and Examining Work**

To what extent did the observations of student working and the examining of student work provide information on the degree to which all students are involved in learning to assist them in achieving the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results? Particularly, comment on the degree of involvement in the learning of students with diverse backgrounds and abilities.

Student Understanding of Performance Levels

To what extent do students know beforehand the standards/expected performance levels for each area of study?

Differentiation of Instruction

To what extent is differentiation of instruction occurring and what is the impact on student learning?

Student Perceptions

Through interviews and dialogue with students that represent the school population, comment on a) their level of understanding of the expected level of performance based on the standards and the schoolwide learning results and b) their perceptions of their learning experiences.

C1. Curriculum: Other Findings

What have you learned from examining additional evidence regarding this criterion?

C2. Instruction Criterion with Indicators

All teachers use a variety of strategies and resources, including technology and experiences beyond the textbook and the classroom, that actively engage students, emphasize higher order thinking skills, and help them succeed at high levels.

INDICATORS

Current Knowledge

Teachers are current in the instructional content taught and research-based instructional methodology.

Teachers as Coaches

Teachers work as coaches to facilitate learning for all students.

Examination of Student Work

Representative samples of student work demonstrate: a) structured learning so that students organize, access and apply knowledge they already have acquired; b) that students have the tools to gather and create knowledge and have opportunities to use these tools to research, inquire, gather, discover and invent knowledge on their own and communicate this.

Representative samples of student work demonstrate that students are able to think, reason, and problem solve in group and individual activities, project, discussions and debates and inquiries related to investigation.

Representative samples of student work demonstrate that students use technology to assist them in achieving the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results.

Representative samples of student work demonstrate student use of materials and resources beyond the textbook, such as utilization and availability of library/multimedia resources and services; availability of and opportunities to access data based, original source documents and computer information networks; and experiences, activities and resources which link students to the real world.

Real World Experiences

Opportunities for shadowing, apprenticeship, community projects and other real world experiences and applications are available to all students.

C2. Instruction: Other Findings

The visiting committee considers other information that impacts the degree to which the school is meeting this criterion.

C2. Instruction Criterion Suggested Evidence to Examine

❖ Guide Questions: To what extent:

- do all teachers use a variety of strategies and resources, including technology and experiences beyond the textbook and the classroom, that actively engage students, emphasize higher order thinking skills, and help them succeed at high levels?

❖ Suggested evidence to examine:

- the degree to which various learning approaches and learning styles of students are addressed through the instructional approaches
- the extent to which teachers work as coaches to facilitate learning for all students
- student work that provides evidence that students are, over time, becoming more adept at gathering information and presenting it in written, oral and multimedia formats
- student work that demonstrates the extent to which learning is structured so that students organize, access and apply knowledge they already have through such activities as:
 - relating the new information or learning tasks to personal experiences and knowledge
 - using concrete examples and experiences and finding analogies, metaphors and similes that deepen their understanding of the topic
 - utilizing opportunities to critique and evaluate new information in relation to what they have experienced and know
- student work that provides evidence that students are able to think, reason, and problem solve in group and individual activities, project, discussions and debates and inquiries related to investigation
- student work which shows the extent to which technology is used to assist students in achieving the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning result
- student work which illustrates the extent to which current teaching practices provide all students with tools to gather and create knowledge and with opportunities to use those tools to research, inquire, gather, discover and invent knowledge on their own, and communicate
- student work that reflects the materials and resources beyond the textbook available to students, such as
 - utilization and availability of library/multimedia resources and services
 - availability of and opportunities to access data bases, original source documents and computer information networks
 - experiences, activities and resources which link students to the real world
- the extent to which opportunities for shadowing, apprenticeship, community projects and other real world experiences and applications are available to all students
- other evidence identified by the school

C2. Instruction Criterion with Sample Prompts

To what extent do all teachers use a variety of strategies and resources, including technology and experiences beyond the textbook and the classroom, that actively engage students, emphasize higher order thinking skills, and help them succeed at high levels?

SAMPLE PROMPTS

Current Knowledge

Provide a range of examples that demonstrate teachers are current in the instructional content taught and research-based instructional methodology.

Teachers as Coaches

To what extent do teachers work as coaches to facilitate learning for all students?

Additional Examination of Student Work: Field #1

To what extent do the representative samples of student work demonstrate: a) structured learning so that students organize, access and apply knowledge they already have acquired? b) that students have the tools to gather and create knowledge and have opportunities to use these tools to research, inquire, gather, discover and invent knowledge on their own and communicate this?

Additional Examination of Student Work: Field #2

To what extent do the representative samples of student work demonstrate that students are able to think, reason, and problem solve in group and individual activities, project, discussions and debates and inquiries related to investigation?

Additional Examination of Student Work: Field #3

To what extent do the representative samples of student work demonstrate that students use technology to assist them in achieving the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results?

Additional Examination of Student Work: Field #4

To what extent do the representative samples of student work demonstrate student use of materials and resources beyond the textbook, such as utilization and availability of library/multimedia resources and services; availability of and opportunities to access data based, original source documents and computer information networks; and experiences, activities and resources which link students to the real world?

Real World Experiences

To what extent are opportunities for shadowing, apprenticeship, community projects and other real world experiences and applications available to all students?

C2. Instruction: Other Findings

What have you learned from examining additional evidence regarding this criterion?