

Standard III: Instructional Practice

Teachers implement instruction that engages and challenges all students to meet or exceed the learning standards.

Element III.1:

Teachers use research-based practices and evidence of student learning to provide developmentally appropriate and standards-driven instruction that motivates and engages students in learning.

Performance indicators:

- a. Teachers align instruction to standards.
- b. Teachers implement instruction proven to be effective in prior research.
- c. Students are actively and cognitively engaged through teacher facilitation of student-to-student and student-to-teacher interactions.

Element III.2:

Teachers communicate clearly and accurately with students to maximize their understanding and learning.

Performance indicators:

- a. Students understand directions and procedures.
- b. Teachers use a variety of questioning techniques to advance student learning and reflection.
- c. Students' comments and questions are acknowledged and utilized to advance learning.
- d. Students understand lesson content through a teacher's use of multiple modalities, such as oral, written, graphic, kinesthetic, and/or tactile methods.
- e. Teachers adjust communication in response to student needs.

Element III.3:

Teachers set high expectations and create challenging learning experiences for students.

Performance indicators:

- a. Teachers articulate high expectations for all students.
- b. Students have a clear understanding of measures of success.
- c. Teachers challenge and support all students by incorporating various instructional strategies, experiences, and resources.

Element III.4:

Teachers explore and use a variety of instructional approaches, resources, and technologies to meet diverse learning needs, engage students, and promote achievement.

Performance indicators:

- a. Teachers use an understanding of students' diverse backgrounds to individualize interactions and differentiate instruction.
- b. Teachers incorporate instructional approaches and technologies to provide students with opportunities to demonstrate mastery of learning outcomes.
- c. Teachers incorporate motivating and meaningful opportunities in instruction to engage students in learning experiences.

Element III.5:

Teachers engage students in the development of multidisciplinary skills, such as communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and use of technology.

Performance Indicators:

- a. Students synthesize and express ideas both in written and oral formats.
- b. Students work effectively with others, including those from diverse groups and with opposing points of view.
- c. Students make decisions, solve problems, and take actions as appropriate.
- d. Students solve problems and/or acquire new knowledge through creative and innovative approaches to learning.
- e. Students utilize technologies and resources to solve real world problems.

Element III.6:

Teachers monitor and assess student progress, seek and provide feedback, and adapt instruction to student needs.

Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers utilize various types of formative assessment during instruction to monitor and check for student understanding and assess progress.
- b. Teachers seek and provide feedback during and after instruction.
- c. Teachers adjust the pace of instruction, focus of instruction, and method of delivery based on students' progress.