

Pre-Conference Sample Questions

The questions provided are intended to guide thinking and conversation; every question may not be answered or relevant for every observation.

FOCUS FOR LEARNING

(Standard 4: Instruction)

- » What is the focus for the lesson?
- » What content will students know/understand? What skills will they demonstrate?
- » What standards are addressed in the planned instruction?
- » Why is this learning important?

ASSESSMENT DATA

(Standard 3: Assessment)

- » What assessment data was examined to inform this lesson planning?
- » What does pre-assessment data indicate about student learning needs?

PRIOR CONTENT KNOWLEDGE/ SEQUENCE/CONNECTIONS

(Standard 1: Students/Standard 2: Content/ Standard 4: Instruction)

- » What prior knowledge do students need?
- » What are the connections to previous and future learning?
- » How does this lesson connect to students' real-life experiences and/or possible careers?
- » How does it connect to other disciplines?

KNOWLEDGE OF STUDENTS

(Standard 1: Students)

- » What should the evaluator know about the student population? (See Data Measures Inventory for the Classroom)
- » How is this a developmentally appropriate learning activity?

LESSON DELIVERY

(Standard 2: Content/Standard 4: Instruction)

- » How will the goals for learning be communicated to students?
- » What instructional strategies and methods will be used to engage students and promote independent learning and problem solving?
- » What strategies will be used to make sure all students achieve lesson goals?
- » How will content-specific concepts, assumptions and skills be taught?

DIFFERENTIATION

(Standard 1: Students/Standard 4: Instruction)

- » How will the instructional strategies address all students' learning needs?
- » How will the lesson engage and challenge students of all levels?
- » How will developmental gaps be addressed?

RESOURCES**(Standard 2: Content/Standard 4: Instruction)**

- » What resources/materials will be used in instruction?
- » How will technology be integrated into lesson delivery?

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT**(Standard 1: Students/Standard 5: Learning Environment)**

- » How will the environment support all students?
- » How will different grouping strategies be used?
- » How will safety in the classroom be ensured?
- » How will respect for all be modeled and taught?

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING**(Standard 3: Assessment)**

- » How will you check for understanding during the lesson?
- » What specific products or demonstrations will assess student learning/achievement of goals for instruction?
- » How will you ensure that students understand how they are doing and support students' self-assessment?
- » How will you use assessment data to inform your next steps?

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES: COLLABORATION AND COMMUNICATION**(Standard 6)**

- » How do you cooperate with colleagues?
- » How do you work with others when there is a problem?
- » What is your communication style with students? With families? With colleagues?
- » In what ways do you seek the perspectives of others? Give an example.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES: PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND GROWTH**(Standard 7)**

- » How do you apply knowledge gained from other experiences into your teaching?
- » Discuss ways you reflect and analyze your teaching.
- » What are some proactive ways you further your own professional growth?