

**The  
New York State  
Teaching Standards  
September 12, 2011**

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**Element I.4:**

Teachers acquire knowledge of individual students from students, families, guardians, and/or caregivers to enhance student learning.

## **Standard II: Knowledge of Content and Instructional Planning**

**Teachers know the content they are responsible for teaching, and plan instruction that ensures growth and achievement for all students.**

### **Element II.1:**

Teachers demonstrate knowledge of the content they teach, including relationships among central concepts, tools of inquiry, structures and current developments within their discipline(s).

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers incorporate key concepts during instruction through the use of multiple representations and explanations.
- b. Teachers engage students to use key disciplinary language with comprehension through instruction.
- c. Teachers demonstrate the effective use of current developments in pedagogy and content.
- d. Teachers design learning experiences that foster student understanding of key disciplinary themes.
- e. Teachers demonstrate knowledge of the learning standards and their application throughout their instruction and practice.

### **Element II.2:**

Teachers understand how to connect concepts across disciplines, and engage learners in critical and innovative thinking and collaborative problem-solving related to real world contexts.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers facilitate students' ability to develop diverse social and cultural perspectives.
- b. Teachers incorporate perspectives from varied disciplines and interdisciplinary skills in their instruction.
- c. Teachers provide opportunities for students to engage in individual and collaborative critical thinking and problem solving.
- d. Teachers model and encourage effective use of interpersonal communication skills to build student capacity for collaboration.
- e. Teachers create opportunities for students to apply disciplinary and cross-disciplinary knowledge to personal experiences and real world problems.

### **Element II.3:**

Teachers use a broad range of instructional strategies to make subject matter accessible.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers design instruction that reflects the multiple experiences, strengths, and learning needs of students.
- b. Teachers adapt instruction in response to various levels of student understanding.
- c. Teachers make meaningful connections between content and students' life experiences.
- d. Teachers create opportunities for students to engage in self-directed learning.

### **Element II.4:**

Teachers establish goals and expectations for all students that are aligned with learning standards and allow for multiple pathways to achievement.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers design learning experiences that are aligned with learning standards.
- b. Teachers articulate clear learning objectives that align with learning standards.
- c. Teachers include opportunities for students' to achieve learning goals in a variety of ways.

### **Element II.5:**

Teachers design relevant instruction that connects students' prior understanding and experiences to new knowledge.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers determine current levels of students' understanding and knowledge of content through questioning techniques, discussion, and other methods.
- b. Teachers address common misconceptions in the content area through instructional methods.
- c. Teachers design learning experiences that connect students' prior knowledge and instruction to new content.

**Element II.6:**

Teachers evaluate and utilize curricular materials and other appropriate resources to promote student success in meeting learning goals.

Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers organize physical space to reflect an awareness of learner needs and curricular goals.
- b. Teachers incorporate a knowledge and understanding of technology in their lessons to enhance student learning.
- c. Teachers organize and effectively use time to achieve learning goals.
- d. Teachers select and adapt curricular materials to align with state standards and meet diverse learning needs.
- e. Teachers access appropriate resources to meet specific learning differences or needs.

## **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 0.0arning and refle

**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 under



## **Standard IV: Learning Environment**

**Teachers work with all students to create a dynamic learning environment that supports achievement and growth.**

### **Element IV.1:**

Teachers create a mutually respectful, safe, and supportive learning environment that is inclusive of every student.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers are caring and respectful in their interactions with students.
- b. Teachers embrace student diversity as an asset in the classroom.
- c. Teachers recognize and reinforce positive interactions among students.
- d. Teachers create a climate of acceptance and respect.
- e. Teachers create an environment where students show responsibility to and for one another.

### **Element IV.2:**

Teachers create an intellectually challenging and stimulating learning environment.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers encourage students to set high standards and expectations for their own performance.
- b. Teachers motivate students to initiate their own learning and strive to achieve challenging learning goals.
- c. Teachers promote students' curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.
- d. Students are actively engaged in learning.
- e. Students openly express their ideas.
- f. Students show pride in their work and accomplishments.

### **Element IV.3:**

Teachers manage the learning environment for the effective operation of the classroom.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers establish, communicate, and maintain clear standards and expectations for student behavior.
- b. Teachers develop, implement, and adapt routines and procedures to manage activities and transitions.
- c. Teachers facilitate instructional groupings to maximize student participation, cooperation, and learning.
- d. Students exhibit respectful classroom interactions.

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### **Element IV.4:**

Teachers organize and utilize available resources (e.g., physical space, time, people, technology) to create a safe and effective learning environment.

**Standard V: Assessment for Student Learning**

**Teachers use multiple measures to assess and document student growth,**

#### **Element V.4:**

Teachers reflect upon and evaluate the effectiveness of their comprehensive assessment system to make adjustments to it and plan instruction accordingly.

##### **Performance Indicators:**

- a. Teachers demonstrate an understanding of assessment measures, grading, and procedures.
- b. Teachers develop a plan for their overall assessment system.
- c. Teachers use their plans and assessment data to adjust teaching and assessment practices.

#### **Element V.5:**

Teachers prepare students to understand the format and directions of assessments used and the criteria by which the students will be evaluated.

##### **Performance Indicators:**

- a. Teachers communicate the purposes of the assessments they use.
- b. Teachers prepare all students for the demands of particular assessment formats, and provide appropriate accommodations, including accommodations in testing conditions, for students with exceptional learning needs.
- c. Teachers articulate assessment criteria to students and provide parameters for success.
- d. Teachers equip students with assessment skills and strategies.
- e. Students practice various formats of assessments using authentic curriculum.

## **Standard VI: Professional Responsibilities and Collaboration**

**Teachers demonstrate professional responsibility and engage relevant stakeholders to maximize student growth, development, and learning.**

### **Element VI.1:**

Teachers uphold professional standards of practice and policy as related to students' rights and teachers' responsibilities.

#### Performance Indicators:

### **Element VI.3:**

Teachers communicate and collaborate with families, guardians, and caregivers to enhance student development and success.

#### **Performance Indicators:**

- a. Teachers invite families, guardians, and caregivers to share information to enhance and increase student development and achievement.
- b. Teachers communicate in various ways student performance, progress, and expectations for student growth, and provide opportunities for discussion.
- c. Teachers suggest strategies and ways in which families can participate in and contribute to their students' education.

### **Element VI.4:**

Teachers manage and perform non-instructional duties in accordance with school district guidelines or other applicable expectations.

#### **Performance Indicators:**

- a. Teachers collect required data and maintain timely and accurate records (e.g., plan books, lunch counts, attendance records, student records, etc.)
- b. Teachers manage time and attendance in accordance with established guidelines.
- c. Teachers maintain classroom and school resources and materials.
- d. Teachers participate in school and district events.

### **Element VI.5:**

Teachers understand and comply with relevant laws and policies as related to students' rights and teachers' responsibilities.

#### **Performance Indicators:**

- a. Teachers communicate relevant regulations and policies to stakeholders.
- b. Teachers maintain confidentiality regarding student records and information.
- c. Teachers report instances of child abuse, safety violations, bullying, and other concerns in accordance with regulations and policies.
- d. Teachers adhere to board policies, district procedures, and contractual obligations.
- e. Teachers access resources to gain information on standards of practice, relevant law, and policy that relate to students' rights and teachers' responsibilities.

## **Standard VII: Professional Growth**

**Teachers set informed goals and strive for continuous professional growth.**

### **Element VII.1:**

Teachers reflect on their practice to improve instructional effectiveness and guide professional growth.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers examine and analyze formal and informal evidence of student learning.
- b. Teachers recognize the effect of their prior experiences and possible biases on their practice.
- c. Teachers use acquired information to identify personal strengths and weaknesses and to plan professional growth.

### **Element VII.2:**

Teachers set goals for, and engage in, ongoing professional development needed to continuously improve teaching competencies.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers set goals to enhance personal strengths and address personal weaknesses in teaching practice.
- b. Teachers engage in opportunities for professional growth and development.

### **Element VII.3:**

Teachers communicate and collaborate with students, colleagues, other professionals, and the community to improve practice.

#### Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers demonstrate a willingness to give and receive constructive feedback to improve professional practice.
- b. Teachers participate actively as part of an instructional team to improve professional practice.
- c. Teachers receive, reflect, and act on constructive feedback from others in an effort to improve their own professional practice.

**Element VII.4:**

Teachers remain current in their knowledge of content and pedagogy by utilizing professional resources.

Performance Indicators:

- a. Teachers benefit from, contribute to, or become members of appropriate professional organizations.
- b. Teachers access and use professional literature and other professional development opportunities to increase their understanding of teaching and learning.
- c. Teachers expand their knowledge of current research as it applies to curriculum, instruction, and assessment methods.