

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

AREA IV: CURRICULUM

Characteristic IV (a): Sets meaningful and productive curricular outcomes.

Professional Understanding: Measurable student outcomes determine whether the goals and objectives for a course have been achieved. Outcomes range from fundamental cognitive change, referred to as “generic thinking skills,” to the most simplistic outcome of “coverage.”

TEACHER BEHAVIOR	DESCRIPTION	Outstanding	Successful	Professional Development Recommended
Promotes Generic Thinking Skills	<i>The objective is to develop thinking skills independent of any particular content knowledge that can be applied elsewhere.</i>	Consistently provides learning experiences that develop cross-curricular critical thinking skills.	Generally provides learning experiences that develop cross-curricular critical thinking skills.	Rarely provides learning experiences that develop cross-curricular critical thinking skills.
Guides Mastery of Academic Knowledge or Skills	<i>Develops curriculum and instruction centered upon what students will know or be able to do.</i>	Consistently centers curriculum and instruction on academic knowledge or skills.	Generally centers curriculum and instruction on academic knowledge or skills.	Rarely centers curriculum and instruction on academic knowledge or skills.
Promotes Involvement	<i>Involves and engages students with the content; students enjoy the activity and stick with it.</i>	Consistently provides activities where students are absorbed, enthusiastic, and intensely involved.	Generally provides activities where students are absorbed, enthusiastic, and intensely involved.	Rarely provides activities where students are absorbed, enthusiastic, and intensely involved.
Provides Classroom Activity	<i>Teacher creates appropriate student activities.</i>	Consistently provides appropriate activities.	Generally provides appropriate activities.	Provides inappropriate or ineffective activities.
Covers Curriculum	<i>Teacher provides curriculum that addresses the appropriate standards for the subject area.</i>	Consistently provides curriculum that addresses all of the appropriate standards for the subject area.	Consistently provides curriculum that addresses most of the appropriate standards for the subject area.	Consistently provides curriculum that addresses few of the appropriate standards for the subject area.