

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

AREA II: INSTRUCTION

Characteristic II (a): Effectively utilizes the first and last five minutes of class time, demonstrates appropriate pacing and transitions, and connects new learning to what students know and need to learn.

Professional Understanding: The effective teacher begins each class with an itinerary, connects lessons to prior knowledge and enduring understandings, and enhances learning with regular summaries, especially at the end of class.

TEACHER BEHAVIOR	DESCRIPTION	Outstanding	Successful	Professional Development Recommended
Begins with Roadmap and Clear Outcomes	<i>Each class begins with an agenda and the outcomes students will achieve.</i>	Roadmap and outcomes are clear to all students.	Roadmap and outcomes are clear to most students.	Roadmap and outcomes are clear to some students.
Uses Activators to Set Context	<i>Activators may be given to students as they enter or at the beginning of each new lesson.</i>	Uses activating activities to engage all students.	Uses some activating activities to engage students.	Seldom uses activating activities.
Connects New Learning	<i>Sets the context by connecting new learning outcomes to current student knowledge and what students are required to know.</i>	Consistently sets a connected context for all students.	Sets a connected context often, but not for all.	Rarely sets a connected context.
Requires Students to Summarize and Clarify	<i>Encourages students to summarize in their own words, alone and with partners, to aid learning and check for understanding.</i>	Consistently engages all students in summary activities.	Often engages students in summarizing activities.	Seldom engages students in summarizing activities.
Teacher Summarizes and Clarifies	<i>Summarizes at the end of each lesson to help students verify what they know and are able to do.</i>	Consistently summarizes major ideas at the end of each lesson.	Often summarizes major ideas at the end of each lesson.	Rarely summarizes major ideas at the end of each lesson.