

## EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

### AREA II: INSTRUCTION

**Characteristic II (b):** Effectively uses the principles of learning derived from research on student learning. These principles include the role of understanding, building connections to other knowledge, experiential and interactive learning, human memory, visualization, practice, and review.

**Professional Understanding:** The teacher is responsible for planning learning activities derived from the knowledge base on how people learn. The successful teacher knows that learning is enhanced with positive relationships and well-designed practice that results in student achievement of course outcomes.

TEACHER BEHAVIOR	DESCRIPTION	Outstanding	Successful	Professional Development Recommended
<b>Identifies Similarities and Differences</b>	<i>Uses metaphors and analogies and related stories to enhance student understanding of the curriculum.</i>	Always identifies similarities and differences in the presented material.	Often identifies similarities and differences in the presented material.	Rarely identifies similarities and differences in the presented material.
<b>Integrates Principles of Human Memory</b>	<i>Includes visual imagery, hierarchies, chunking, advanced organizers, and personal meaning.</i>	Integrates principles of memory effectively and consistently.	Integrates principles of memory reasonably well.	Rarely integrates principles of memory.
<b>Use Positive Reinforcement</b>	<i>Reinforces effort and provides recognition to every student.</i>	Consistently reinforces effort in a positive manner.	Often reinforces effort in a positive manner.	Rarely reinforces effort in a positive manner.
<b>Effectively Utilizes Practice and Homework</b>	<i>Designs practice exercises and homework that is relevant, appropriately challenging, and results in student achievement of lesson outcomes.</i>	Nearly all students are challenged and learn from homework and practice exercises.	Most students are challenged and learn from homework and practice exercises.	Few students are challenged and learn from homework and practice exercises.
<b>Requires Clear and Precise Notes and Summaries</b>	<i>Establishes a system of student note taking and summarizing that results in student achievement of outcomes.</i>	Nearly all students produce excellent notes and summaries to achieve outcomes.	Most students achieve outcomes through the use of notes and summaries.	Has not taught and enforced proper note-taking skills.