

Areas of Focus for Standards-Based Observations I

Use this form to plan observations. Select no more than two or three areas of focus.

- _____ How are standards, or what a student must know and be able to do, communicated to students? How is the learning “framed” so that students know what to do and why?
- _____ How does the teacher diagnostically determine what students already know related to a standard?
- _____ How is students’ prior knowledge used to facilitate new learning?
- _____ How are new concepts or skills introduced?
- _____ What strategies are used to support students in “making meaning” of information and concepts?
- _____ How are questions, activities, and assignments all shown to be linked to support students in achieving content standards?
- _____ How are multiple ways to learn provided to students with different skills, knowledge levels, abilities, and interests?
- _____ How is student learning monitored as the lesson progresses?
- _____ How does the teacher seek to clarify information, or clear up misunderstandings or misinformation that is detected?
- _____ How is feedback on student work or learning provided?
- _____ How is the lesson adjusted in progress as the teacher becomes aware of student responses to instruction?
- _____ How is student learning formally assessed?
- _____ How do students assess their own and others’ work?