



16 PILLARS **ROOT CAUSE RUBRIC** DATABASE



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RUBRIC FOR THE 16 HIGH-LEVERAGE PRACTICES OF EYE ON THE GOALTM

Curriculum, assessment and teaching are directly aligned with state standards in all content areas and for all students, with standards and consistent teaching practices at the center of curriculum planning and student learning.

1=	2=	3=	4=
BEGINNING	PARTIAL	FULL	EXEMPLARY
IMPLEMENTATION	IMPLEMENTATION	IMPLEMENTATION	IMPLEMENTATION
- Curriculum and instruction are rarely aligned with state standards	- Many elements of curriculum are aligned with state standards	- All elements of curriculum are aligned with state standards	(In addition to level-3 statement)
-	-	-	-
Teacher preferences	Standards inform	All instruction fully	Curriculum undergoes
and/or other factors,	some, but not all,	utilizes standards-	frequent review, using
rather than standards,	instruction	based teaching and	a process that involves
drive instruction	school-wide	planning	multiple stakeholders
- Only summative state assessments are aligned with state standards - The curriculum offers little cultural validation	- Some local formative assessments are aligned with state standards - The curriculum offers some cultural validation, but is not relevant to all students	- Standards-based formative assessments are an integral part of teaching and learning - Most curricular materials affirm "self" for all student groups, and are embedded in teaching practices schoolwide	- Teachers ensure that students are fully aware of the standards and criteria by which their performance will be assessed

All students have access to challenging, on-standard teaching and courses that include coverage of the "power standards" and core content.

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION	2= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION	3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION	4= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION
- Few students have full access to high-level courses and class- rooms	- Most students have full access to high-level courses and class- rooms	- All students have full access to high-level courses and class- rooms	(In addition to level-3 statement)
- "Tracking" of students or student-groups is a pervasive school-wide practice	- "Tracking" occurs at some levels or within some programs, with opportunity for students to move up to higher- level course work	- No systematic barriers or "policy" exists to hamper stu- dent access to high- level courses or learning opportunities	- An Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) exists for every student reflecting choice, adap- tations, and creation of materials to enhance their own learning
- Few students are re- quired to complete work beyond a basic skill level	- Most students are required to complete work only beyond a basic skill level	- All students are expect- ed to complete work that requires higher level thinking skills	- Active recruitment of disadvantaged or un- derperforming students for highest-level class- rooms and courses



Instructional strategies are differentiated to meet the varied learning needs of each student.

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION	2= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION	3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION	4= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION
- Few classrooms adapt instruction and assessment to students' individual needs	- Some teachers adapt and modify instruction and assessment as the needs of individual students change	- All classrooms adapt instruction and assessment to students' individual needs	(In addition to level-3 statement)
- Individual teacher initiative, rather than school-wide practice, drives differentiation	- Some teams/depart- ments have consensus on how to differentiate instruction	- Differentiation is a school-wide practice	- Instructional lead- ers and teachers have regular professional conversations about dif- ferentiated practice
- Teachers are minimally familiar with behav- iors, learning styles, and prior knowledge of culturally-different students	- Some teachers/teams design lessons which align with behaviors, learning styles, and pri- or knowledge of cultur- ally different students	- Differentiation practices are adapted quickly and effectively as student needs change - All teachers regu- larly plan for and apply varied approaches to connect instruction with student knowledge, learning styles and cul- tural background	- Students report that instruction and as- sessment match their strengths and bridge learning deficits - Students are able to initiate or adapt ac- tivities and projects that enhance their prior knowledge, learn- ing styles and cultural background

4. CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACH-ING AND LEARNING

Instruction reflects students' prior knowledge, learning styles and cultural background; programs and policies integrate the perspectives and needs of diverse stakeholders.

|= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION

Few teachers and leaders have explored the impact of their personal values and biases on their professional practices

-Few practitioners are familiar with cultural behaviors and learning styles of diverse student-groups

A sense of safety and wholeness, as well as a connection to the school and teacher, is felt only by a few students

Racism is viewed as either non-existent or an "individual act of meanness"

PARTIAL

Some teachers and leaders acknowledge their need for cultural dialogue about biases and attitudes and their impact on teaching and learning

Active willingness to learn more about students' cultural backgrounds exists but is inconsistent

Only certain students feel comfortable with the classroom and school setting

Some practitioners understand the influence of racism and "white privilege" on inequitable academic outcomes for students of color

3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION

Ongoing conversations about cultural competence are an integral part of professional practices and reflection on student learning

Practitioners consistently use cultural learning styles to accelerate achievement

Most practitioners are able to interact on a personal level with culturally different students and their families

The school community accepts shared accountability for the effects of racism and other forms of prejudice on student learning

EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION

(In addition to level-3 statement)

Entire school community (teachers, staff, leadership, parents, and external partners) validates student knowledge, learning styles, and cultural background

Schools are advocates for solving community/ social problems

School-community practices affirm openness and relationship based on trust and mutual respect

The entire school takes collective accountability to eliminate racism and other forms of prejudice affecting the school and society

5. DATA-DRIVEN CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

School staff uses frequent and timely formative assessments to monitor and adjust teaching, leadership and organizational practices.

3= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION EXEMPLARY BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION FULL IMPLEMENTATION Using data to inform School-wide process Clear school-wide (In addition to level-3 statement) practice is not a for using data to inform process exists for school-wide process practice is unclear or using data to inform under-utilized practice Formative assessments Schools involve Implementation of Assessments are given common assessments at several points during students, families lack rigor and local the instructional cycle, across or between ownership and community stakeholders in levels is lacking and more frequently with struggling studata-driven continuous Use of assessment dents improvement efforts data is sporadic and inconsistent Teams of practition-Students frequently ers score student work assess and monitor the quality of their own together work relative to the performance standards, Grade level or and make active use of school-based teams that information in their meet regularly to learning review formative data and make instructional adjustments

DATABASE 6. ACCELERATED INTERVENTION

Students receive immediate and targeted academic and social-emotional support to accelerate their achievement.

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION	2= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION	3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION	4= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION
- Few students who have fallen behind receive timely, targeted intervention	- Most students who have fallen behind receive targeted intervention	- All students who have fallen behind receive targeted intervention	(In addition to level-3 statement)
- Students often receive intervention services for longer than educationally necessary - Intervention services are rarely linked to regular classroom instruction or assessment	- Intervention services are often provided in ineffective groups or configurations - Limited communication occurs between inter- vention service provid- ers, school personnel and families regarding student academic and social-emotional needs	- Goals and strategies for intervention services are individualized for each student - Schools have an established procedure for decreasing or ending intervention services for students who demonstrate academic progress - Seamless coordination of services is evident among intervention service providers, families, and school staff	- Students meeting standards have a uniquely-tailored learning plan to accelerate their achievement even further

7. COLLEGIAL COLLABORATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Teachers and leadership and staff engage in year-round evidence-based cycles of inquiry (e.g., Eye on the Goal™), with clear standards of professional practice and accountability.

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION	2= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION	3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION	4= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION
- Staff do not use a data-driven inquiry process to reflect on professional practice	- Conversations about professional practice and student learning are informal or in initial stages	- School has a data- driven inquiry cycle for goal-setting and reflec- tion on professional practice and student learning	(In addition to level-3 statement)
- Weak culture of interpersonal trust and collegial accountability	- Staff meet sporadi- cally to analyze student achievement data and connect it to practice	- Staff routinely set aside time to reflect on in- dividual and collective practices	- Schools, districts and teams act as communities of effective practice (i.e., professional learning
- Limited opportunities are provided for regular collegial conversations about practice	- A culture of interper- sonal trust and collegial accountability is emerging	- School has a well- established, intentional culture of trust and ac- countability	communities), with clear standards for teaching, learning and leadership -
			Professional conversa- tions include teachers and leaders observing each others' practice, offering critical feed-

back and conducting

peer coaching

DATABASE 8. RESULTS-FOCUSED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Professional learning is linked to instructional priorities, is standards-based, has clear goals, and meets the individual needs of staff.

3= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION PARTIAL BEGINNING FULL IMPLEMENTATION IMPLEMENTATION Professional Professional Professional develop-(In addition development is loosely to level-3 statement) development is ment is directly conunconnected to school connected to school nected to instructional improvement plan and improvement plan and practices that improve student achievement instructional priorities instructional priorities Clearly articulated No process exists for Some, but not all, All teachers, leaders standards and linking professional practitioners participate and staff participate in benchmarks of professtandards-based, datalearning to student in professional developsional mastery guide ment informed by data driven professional needs professional learning development Each staff member has Professional Professional develop-Continuous professiona formal individualized ment is standardsal learning is based on development is not professional learning standards-based or based and/or differthe individual needs of plan focused on meetdifferentiated entiated only in a few teachers, leaders, and ing benchmarks of narrowly defined areas staff professional mastery Insufficient time and Time and resources are Continuous resources are available occasionally set aside professional learning for continuous profesfor continuous profesfor all is a school-wide priority, with adequate sional learning sional learning allocations of time and resources

DATABASE 9. HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL

Beliefs and behaviors reflect commonly held high expectations and shared responsibility for professional practices and student learning.

3= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION PARTIAL EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION FULL **IMPLEMENTATION** IMPLEMENTATION (In addition There is a pervasive There is an emerging There is a strong culture of high expectaculture of high to level-3 statement) culture of low or preferential expectations for expectations for tions for all students students and adults students and adults and adults: a "no excuses" mindset School staff hold some, Outcomes for all stu-Some adults routinely All stakeholders, expect less from spebut not all. students dents demonstrate a including students and cific students or student to high academic and commitment to high families, have an behavioral standards levels of learning for all active role in shaping groups and reinforcing a student populations culture of high There are inconsist-There are occasional efexpectations for all ent efforts to publicly forts to publicly recog-There are ongoing efrecognize, reinforce nize, reinforce and reforts to publicly recogand reward continuous ward continuous growth nize, reinforce and re-Classroom interacward continuous growth growth and achieveand achievement tions, assignments, ment and achievement and outcomes convey high expectations for all students: work reflects that students have internalized these expec-

tations

DATABASE 10. EFFECTIVE TEACHER FOR EVERY STUDENT, EFFECTIVE LEADER FOR EVERY SCHOOL

Staffing assignments ensure equitable distribution of teachers and leaders to meet the specific needs of students and schools.

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION	2= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION	3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION	4= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION
- Knowledge and skills of the teacher do not match the needs of his/her assigned students	- Some, but not all, teachers are assigned considering evidence- based needs of every student or student group	- There is intentional assignment or reallo- cation of teachers and leaders based on identi- fied student and school needs	(In addition to level-3 statement)
- Knowledge and skills of the leader do not match the needs of his/her assigned school	- Some, but not all, leaders are assigned considering evidence- based needs of each school	- The district and school employ sustainable strategies to attract and retain highly effective teachers and leaders in high-need schools	- The school routinely makes student learning needs the primary criterion for staffing decisions
- Teachers and leaders are generally assigned based on "seniority," "preferences," etc.	- Teacher and leader placements are of- ten reactive or "last minute," rather than a priority	- Teachers, leaders and staff with proven record of effectiveness are assigned to habitually underperforming stu- dents, student popula- tions or schools	- There are board- approved policies and incentives to facilitate aligning teacher and leader assignments with student and school needs

DATABASE 11. NEEDS-BASED RESOURCE ALLOCATION

School resources align to instructional needs, and are focused on professional practices that accelerate learning for all student populations.

PARTIAL

results

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION

The Instructional Focus rarely drives the allocation and deployment of resources (i.e., people, money, time)

The Instructional Focus partially drives resource allocation but the resources lack direct connection to data and

IMPLEMENTATION

3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION

The Instructional Focus guides all aspects of fiscal and human resource allocation, including teacher and administrator assignments

A significant portion

of school resources

is spent on building

teacher and leader-

learning

ship proficiency in ways

that accelerate student

ÉXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION

(In addition to level-3 statement)

Resources for instruction and professional learning do not match the needs of students and staff

Professional development opportunities are planned but do not specifically address school needs

Budget items are clearly linked to staff development opportunities that support teaching and learning priorities and student achievement

-All resources are adapted to the changing needs of students, staff and school on an ongoing basis

DATABASE 12. SUPPORTS FOR STAFF

Teachers, leaders and staff receive timely, focused feedback, intervention and support (e.g., coaching, mentoring, peer support, targeted training).

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION	2= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION	3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION	4= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION
- Supports for teachers, administrators, and staff are not clearly implemented	- Supports for struggling teachers, staff and administrators are unreliable and sporadic	- Supports for staff (es- pecially new or strug- gling teachers, staff and administrators) are differentiated, easily ac- cessible and ongoing	(In addition to level-3 statement)
- No consistent frame- work exists for deter- mining who needs sup- port and what form the support should take	- An informal, undocu- mented structure exists for determining when and where intervention might be helpful	- Supports are linked to goals for improving student achievement and are designed to strengthen professional practice	- Supports for staff are systemic, including directed, collaborative, and self-guided options for individual practition- ers and teams
- Interventions are often unconnected to evi- dence and practice	- Interventions are loosely connected to evidence and practice	- There is a structured approach to anticipate, identify and address staff need for profes- sional support and intervention	- Supervision, interven- tion and evaluation involve the school, district, and employee bargaining units
		- School/district has in- corporated a mentoring program for new teach- ers and leaders needing support	

DATABASE 13. INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

The principal and instructional leadership team articulate a shared school vision, and are actively involved in planning, guiding and assessing instruction and student learning.

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION	2= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION	3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION	4= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION
- Principal and teacher- leaders do not share a common instructional vision	- The school's instruc- tional vision is known by some, but not all, teachers and staff	- Principal and instruc- tional leadership team have direct, day-to-day involvement in class- room instructional practices and student learning (e.g., using a rigorous walk-through and feedback protocol)	(In addition to level-3 statement)
- There is limited involve- ment of the principal and leadership team in instructional monitor- ing and ongoing staff development	- Instructional supervi- sion and feedback is infrequent and incon- sistent	- Principal and instruc- tional leadership team allocate a significant portion of time to overseeing day-to-day instruction and profes- sional development	- Principal and instructional leadership team are the lead facilitators of data analysis, continuous improvement and professional accountability
- Classroom contact by principal and/or instructional leader- ship team is limited to formal, mandatory observations	- Feedback from obser- vations of professional practice occasionally drives professional de- velopment	- Feedback and sup- port from the principal are timely, and shape coaching and interven- tion for teachers and staff	
		- Leaders model cultur- ally competent practic- es and hold the school community accountable for valuing the perspec- tives of all stakeholders	

DATABASE 14. SAFE CLIMATE FOR LEARNING AND WORK

The school culture and structures support the social-emotional needs of students and adults, and standards for student and adult conduct are fair and consistently enforced.

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION	2= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION	3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION	4= EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION
- Standards of conduct for students and adults are unclear, perceived to be unfair, and/or in- consistently enforced	- Standards of conduct exist in writing but are not fairly and consist- ently enforced	- There are clear, pub- lished guidelines outlin- ing proper attitudes and behaviors by students and adults alike	(In addition to level-3 statement)
- School climate is per- ceived to be unfriendly and unsafe for students and adults	- Approach to discipline is generally punitive rather than encourag- ing and nurturing	- School makes a sus- tained effort to develop a uniform, non-prefer- ential code of conduct that applies to all, with- out exception	- Student involvement in the development and implementation of discipline and conflict resolution is direct and sustained
- There is weak coordina- tion of social-emotional supports for students between schools and service providers	- There are erratic, un- systematic supports for students' social-emo- tional needs	- Students have access to an "advocate" or specific point of contact to connect them with appropriate services - Adults and students demonstrate genuine caring for one another	- Formal partnerships with community-based organizations exist regarding support sys- tems for students and families - Students monitor each other's treatment of peers, correcting class- mates respectfully when needed

DATABASE 15. EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT OPERATIONS

The school has well-established organizational procedures, and day-to-day operations run smoothly to facilitate teaching, learning and leadership.

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION

∠= PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The school leader or

a non-representative

dissemination of the

school budaet funds

with little input from

stakeholders

group determines

The school leader is unaware of the impact the school budget has on student learning

-School rules and procedures are disorganized, undocumented and crisis-driven

-Interaction between school and family/community is strained and not welcoming -School rules and procedures are documented, but difficult to access or understand

Treatment of students, staff and family/community is uneven and preferential

3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION

The principal, site council, and teacher leaders collaboratively decide on the equitable use of the school budget to effectively impact student achievement

School rules and procedures are well-established and commonly understood by all

Standard operating procedures for core office and management practices are fully documented and reinforced

Responsibility for respectful and professional behavior toward students, school staff and family/community is shared by all

EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION

(In addition to level-3 statement)

Community stakeholders are actively involved in the equitable use of the school budget to effectively impact student achievement

Clearly-defined metrics (vital signs) for operational effectiveness and efficiency are collected and analyzed to improve school operations

DATABASE 16. STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY

Trust among home-school-community is nurtured through shared responsibility for student success, proactive communication and meaningful stakeholder "voice".

1= BEGINNING IMPLEMENTATION

Few or no formal opportunities exist for schools to connect with families about decisions that directly affect student learning

-School exists as an "island" separate from its community, with little or no sustained outreach to community stakeholders

-Few or no school communications are available in the students' home language

-Family problems are viewed with an "it's their problem" mindset PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION

Some non-systematic opportunities exist for schools to connect with families about decisions that directly affect student learning

Many school communications are available in the home languages of the students

Some, but not all, families and community partners have an idea of how to "navigate" school and district rules, structures, etc.

Practitioners only help those families who ask, or families who speak the mainstream language

3= FULL IMPLEMENTATION

A parent participation plan is designed to encourage input from families, inclusive of all cultures and language differences

Regular, proactive community outreach efforts are made, with a clear point-of-contact

All school communications are available in the home languages of students and their families

There is a school or district liaison directly responsible for outreach to families and community

EXEMPLARY

(In addition to level-3 statement)

There is a strong culture of parent involvement in setting learning goals for each student, monitoring student progress, and co-developing improvement strategies

There is a structured process for gathering parent and community feedback on key areas of student learning and school operations

Practitioners align with parent groups for inclusion of diverse ideas

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