Athens Area Schools Evaluation Rubric for

Domain 1 PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Unsatisfactory 1	Basic 2	Proficient 3	Distinguished 4	Score
 The teacher makes content errors. The teacher does not consider prerequisite relationships when planning. The teacher's plans use inappropriate strategies for the discipline. 	 The teacher's understanding of the discipline is rudimentary. The teacher's knowledge of prerequisite relationships is inaccurate or incomplete. Lesson and unit plans use limited instructional strategies, and some are not suitable to the content. 	 The teacher can identify important concepts of the discipline and their relationships to one another. The teacher provides clear explanations of the content. The teacher answers students' questions accurately and provides feedback that furthers their learning. Instructional strategies in unit and lesson plans are entirely suitable to the content. 	 The teacher cites intra- and interdisciplinary content relationships. The teacher's plans demonstrate awareness of possible student misconceptions and how they can be addressed. The teacher's plans reflect recent developments in content-related pedagogy. 	
 The teacher does not understand child development characteristics and has unrealistic expectations for students. The teacher does not try to ascertain varied ability levels among students in the class. The teacher is not aware of students' interests or cultural heritages. The teacher takes no responsibility to learn about students' medical or learning disabilities. 	 The teacher cites developmental theory but does not seek to integrate it into lesson planning. The teacher is aware of the different ability levels in the class but tends to teach to the "whole group." The teacher recognizes that students have different interests and cultural backgrounds but rarely draws on their contributions or differentiates materials to accommodate those differences. The teacher is aware of medical issues and learning disabilities with some students but does not seek to understand the implications of that knowledge. 	 The teacher knows, for groups of students, their levels of cognitive development. The teacher is aware of the different cultural groups in the class. The teacher has a good idea of the range of interests of students in the class. The teacher has identified "high," "medium," and "low" groups of students within the class. The teacher is well informed about students' cultural heritages and incorporates this knowledge in lesson planning. The teacher is aware of the special needs represented by students in the class. 	 The teacher uses ongoing methods to assess students' skill levels and designs instruction accordingly. The teacher seeks out information from all students about their cultural heritages. The teacher maintains a system of updated student records and incorporates medical and/or learning needs into lesson plans. 	
 Outcomes lack rigor. Outcomes do not represent important learning in the discipline. Outcomes are not clear or are stated as activities. Outcomes are not suitable for many students in the class. 	 Outcomes represent a mixture of low expectations and rigor. Some outcomes reflect important learning in the discipline. Outcomes are suitable for most of the class. 	 Outcomes represent high expectations and rigor. Outcomes are related to big ideas Outcomes are written in terms of what students will learn not do. Outcomes represent a range of types: factual knowledge, conceptual understanding, reasoning, social interaction, management, and communication. Outcomes, differentiated where necessary, are suitable to groups of students in the class. 	 The teacher's plans reference curricular frameworks or blueprints to ensure accurate sequencing. The teacher connects outcomes to previous and future learning. Outcomes are differentiated to encourage individual students to take educational risk 	

 The teacher uses only district-provided materials, even when more variety would assist some students. The teacher does not seek out resources available to expand her own skill. Although the teacher is aware of some student needs, he does not inquire about possible resources. 	 The teacher uses materials in the school library but does not search beyond the school for resources. The teacher participates in content-area workshops offered by the school but does not pursue other professional development. The teacher locates materials and resources for students that are available through the school but does not pursue any other avenues. 	 Texts are at varied levels. Texts are supplemented by guest speakers and field experiences. The teacher facilitates the use of Internet resources. Resources are multidisciplinary. The teacher expands her knowledge through professional learning groups and organizations. The teacher pursues options offered by universities. The teacher provides lists of resources outside the classroom for students to draw on. 	 Texts are matched to student skill level. The teacher has ongoing relationships with colleges and universities that support student learning. The teacher maintains a log of resources for student reference. The teacher pursues apprenticeships to increase discipline knowledge. The teacher facilitates student contact with resources outside the classroom. 	
 Learning activities are boring and/or not well aligned to the instructional goals. Materials are not engaging or do not meet instructional outcomes. Instructional groups do not support learning. Lesson plans are not structured or sequenced and are unrealistic in their expectations. 	 Learning activities are moderately challenging. Learning resources are suitable, but there is limited variety. Instructional groups are random, or they only partially support objectives. Lesson structure is uneven or may be unrealistic about time expectations. 	 Learning activities are matched to instructional outcomes. Activities provide opportunity for higher-level thinking. The teacher provides a variety of appropriately challenging materials and resources. Instructional student groups are organized thoughtfully to maximize learning and build on students' strengths. The plan for the lesson or unit is well structured, with reasonable time allocations. 	 Activities permit student choice. Learning experiences connect to other disciplines. The teacher provides a variety of appropriately challenging resources that are differentiated for students in the class. Lesson plans differentiate for individual student needs. 	
 Assessments do not match instructional outcomes. Assessments lack criteria. No formative assessments have been designed. Assessment results do not affect future plans. 	 Only some of the instructional outcomes are addressed in the planned assessments. Assessment criteria are vague. Plans refer to the use of formative assessments, but they are not fully developed. Assessment results are used to design lesson plans for the whole class, not individual students. 	 All the learning outcomes have a method for assessment. Assessment types match learning expectations. Plans indicate modified assessments when they are necessary for some students. Assessment criteria are clearly written. Plans include formative assessments to use during instruction. Lesson plans indicate possible adjustments based on formative assessment data. 	 Assessments provide opportunities for student choice. Students participate in designing assessments for their own work. Teacher-designed assessments are authentic, with real-world application as appropriate. Students develop rubrics according to teacher-specified learning objectives. Students are actively involved in collecting information from formative assessments and provide input. 	

Domain 2 THE CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Unsatisfactory 1	Basic 2	Proficient 3	Distinguished 4	Score
 The teacher is disrespectful toward students or insensitive to students' ages, cultural backgrounds, and developmental levels. Students' body language indicates feelings of hurt, discomfort, or insecurity. The teacher displays no familiarity with, or caring about, individual students. The teacher disregards disrespectful interactions among students. 	 The quality of interactions between teacher and students, or among students, is uneven, with occasional disrespect or insensitivity. The teacher attempts to respond to disrespectful behavior among students, with uneven results. The teacher attempts to make connections with individual students, but student reactions indicate that these attempts are not entirely successful. 	 Talk between the teacher and students and among students is uniformly respectful. The teacher successfully responds to disrespectful behavior among students. Students participate willingly, but may be somewhat hesitant to offer their ideas in front of classmates. The teacher makes general connections with individual students. Students exhibit respect for the teacher. 	 The teacher demonstrates knowledge and caring about individual students' lives beyond the class and school. There is no disrespectful behavior among students. When necessary, students respectfully correct one another. Students participate without fear of put-downs or ridicule from either the teacher or other students. The teacher respects and encourages students' efforts. 	
 The teacher conveys that there is little or no purpose for the work, or that the reasons for doing it are due to external factors. The teacher conveys to at least some students that the work is too challenging for them. Students exhibit little or no pride in their work. Students use language incorrectly; the teacher does not correct them. 	 The teacher's energy for the work is neutral, neither indicating a high level of commitment nor ascribing the need to do the work to external forces. The teacher conveys high expectations for only some students. Students exhibit a limited commitment to complete the work on their own; many students indicate that they are looking for an "easy path." The teacher's primary concern appears to be to complete the task at hand. The teacher urges, but does not insist, that students use precise language. 	 The teacher communicates the importance of the content and the conviction that with hard work all students can master the material. The teacher demonstrates a high regard for students' abilities. The teacher conveys an expectation of high levels of student effort. Students expend good effort to complete work of high quality. The teacher insists on precise use of language by students. 	 The teacher communicates passion for the subject. The teacher conveys the satisfaction that accompanies a deep understanding of complex content. Students indicate through their questions and comments a desire to understand the content. Students assist their classmates in understanding the content. Students take initiative in improving the quality of their work. Students correct one another in their use of language. 	
2b				

 Students not working with the teacher are not productively engaged. Transitions are disorganized, with much loss of instructional time. There do not appear to be any established procedures for distributing and collecting materials. A considerable amount of time is spent off task because of unclear procedures. Volunteers and paraprofessionals have no defined role and/or are idle much of the time. 	 Students not working directly with the teacher are only partially engaged. Procedures for transitions seem to have been established, but their operation is not smooth. There appear to be established routines for distribution and collection of materials, but students are confused about how to carry them out. Classroom routines function unevenly. Volunteers and paraprofessionals require frequent supervision. 	 Students are productively engaged during small-group or independent work. Transitions between large- and small-group activities are smooth. Routines for distribution and collection of materials and supplies work efficiently. Classroom routines function smoothly. Volunteers and paraprofessionals work with minimal supervision. 	 With minimal prompting by the teacher, students ensure that their time is used productively. Students take initiative in distributing and collecting materials efficiently. Students themselves ensure that transitions and other routines are accomplished smoothly. Volunteers and paraprofessionals take initiative in their work in the class.
 The classroom environment is chaotic, with no standards of conduct evident. The teacher does not monitor student behavior. Some students disrupt the classroom, without apparent teacher awareness or with an ineffective response. 2d 	 The teacher attempts to maintain order in the classroom, referring to classroom rules, but with uneven success. The teacher attempts to keep track of student behavior, but with no apparent system. The teacher's response to student misbehavior is inconsistent: sometimes harsh, other times lenient. 	 Standards of conduct appear to have been established and implemented successfully. Overall, student behavior is generally appropriate. The teacher frequently monitors student behavior. The teacher's response to student misbehavior is effective. 	 Student behavior is entirely appropriate; any student misbehavior is very minor and swiftly handled. The teacher silently and subtly monitors student behavior. Students respectfully intervene with classmates at appropriate moments to ensure compliance with standards of conduct.
 There are physical hazards in the classroom, endangering student safety. Many students can't see or hear the teacher or see the board. Available technology is not being used even if it is available and its use would enhance the lesson. 	 The physical environment is safe, and most students can see and hear the teacher or see the board. The physical environment is not an impediment to learning but does not enhance it. The teacher makes limited use of available technology and other resources. 	 The classroom is safe, and all students are able to see and hear the teacher or see the board. The classroom is arranged to support the instructional goals and learning activities. The teacher makes appropriate use of available technology. 	 Modifications are made to the physical environment to accommodate students with special needs. There is total alignment between the learning activities and the physical environment. Students take the initiative to adjust the physical environment. The teacher and students make extensive and imaginative use of available technology.

Domain 3 INSTRUCTION

Unsatisfactory 1	Basic 2	Proficient 3	Distinguished 4	Score
At no time during the lesson does	The teacher provides little	• The teacher states clearly, at	If asked, students are able to	
the teacher convey to students what	elaboration or explanation about	some point during the lesson, what	explain what they are learning and	
they will be learning.	what the students will be learning.	the students will be learning.	where it fits into the larger	
Students indicate through body	• The teacher's explanation of the	The teacher's explanation of	curriculum context.	
language or questions that they	content consists of a monologue,	content is clear and invites student	The teacher explains content	
don't understand the content being	with minimal participation or	participation and thinking.	clearly and imaginatively, using	
presented.	intellectual engagement by students	The teacher makes no content	metaphors and analogies to bring	
The teacher makes a serious	The teacher makes no serious	errors.	content to life.	
content error that will affect	content errors but may make minor	The teacher describes specific	The teacher points out possible	
students' understanding of the	ones.	strategies students might use,	areas for misunderstanding.	
lesson.	The teacher's explanations of	inviting students to interpret them in	The teacher invites students to	
Students indicate through their	content are purely procedural, with	the context of what they're learning.	explain the content to their	
questions that they are confused	no indication of how students can	Students engage with the learning	classmates.	
about the learning task.	think strategically.	task, indicating that they understand	Students suggest other strategies	
The teacher's communications	• The teacher must clarify the	what they are to do.	they might use in approaching a	
include errors of vocabulary or	learning task so students can	• If appropriate, the teacher models	challenge or analysis.	
usage or imprecise use of academic	complete it.	the process to be followed in the	The teacher uses rich language,	
language.	The teacher's vocabulary and	task.	offering brief vocabulary lessons	
The teacher's vocabulary is	usage are correct but	The teacher's vocabulary and	where appropriate, both for general	
inappropriate to the age or culture	unimaginative.	usage are correct and entirely	vocabulary and for the discipline.	
of the students.	When the teacher attempts to	suited to the lesson, including,	Students use academic language	
	explain academic vocabulary, it is	where appropriate, explanations of	correctly.	
	only partially successful.	academic vocabulary.	concertification of the second s	
	• The teacher's vocabulary is too	The teacher's vocabulary is		
3a	advanced, or too juvenile, for	appropriate to students' ages and		
	students.	levels of development.		
Questions are rapid-fire and	The teacher frames some	The teacher uses open-ended	Students initiate higher-order	
convergent, with a single correct	questions designed to promote	questions, inviting students to think	questions.	
answer.	student thinking, but many have a	and/or offer multiple possible	• The teacher builds on and uses	
Questions do not invite student	single correct answer, and the	answers.	student responses to questions in	
thinking.	teacher calls on students quickly.	 The teacher makes effective use 	order to deepen student	
All discussion is between the	The teacher invites students to	of wait time.	understanding.	
teacher and students; students are	respond directly to one another's	 Discussions enable students to 	 Students extend the discussion, 	
not invited to speak directly to one	ideas, but few students respond.	talk to one another without ongoing	enriching it.	
another.	 The teacher calls on many 	mediation by teacher.	 Students invite comments from 	
• The teacher does not ask students	students, but only a small number	 The teacher calls on most 	their classmates during a	
to explain their thinking.	actually participate in the discussion	students, even those who don't	discussion and challenge one	
Only a few students dominate the	 The teacher asks students to 	initially volunteer.	another's thinking.	
discussion.	explain their reasoning, but only	 Many students actively engage in 	 Virtually all students are engaged 	
	some students attempt to do so.	the discussion.	in the discussion.	
		 The teacher asks students to 		
		justify their reasoning, and most		
3b		attempt to do so.		

 Few students are intellectually engaged in the lesson. Learning tasks/activities and materials require only recall or have a single correct response or method. Instructional materials used are unsuitable to the lesson and/or the students. The lesson drags or is rushed. Only one type of instructional group is used (whole group, small groups) when variety would promote more student engagement. 	 Some students are intellectually engaged in the lesson. Learning tasks are a mix of those requiring thinking and those requiring recall. Student engagement with the content is largely passive; the learning consists primarily of facts or procedures. The materials and resources are partially aligned to the lesson objectives. Few of the materials and resources require student thinking or ask students to explain their thinking. The pacing of the lesson is uneven—suitable in parts but rushed or dragging in others. The instructional groupings used are partially appropriate to the activities. 	 Most students are intellectually engaged in the lesson. Most learning tasks have multiple correct responses or approaches and/or encourage higher-order thinking. Students are invited to explain their thinking as part of completing tasks. Materials and resources support the learning goals and require intellectual engagement, as appropriate. The pacing of the lesson provides students the time needed to be intellectually engaged. The teacher uses groupings that are suitable to the lesson activities. 	 Virtually all students are intellectually engaged in the lesson. Lesson activities require high-level student thinking and explanations of their thinking. Students take initiative to adapt the lesson by (1) modifying a learning task to make it more meaningful or relevant to their needs, (2) suggesting modifications to the grouping patterns used, and/or (3) suggesting modifications or additions to the materials being used. Students have an opportunity for reflection and closure on the lesson to consolidate their understanding. 	
 The teacher gives no indication of what high-quality work looks like. The teacher makes no effort to determine whether students understand the lesson. Students receive no feedback, or feedback is global or directed to only one student. The teacher does not ask students to evaluate their own or classmates' work. 	 There is little evidence that the students understand how their work will be evaluated. The teacher monitors understanding through a single method, or without eliciting evidence of understanding from students. Feedback to students is vague and not oriented toward future improvement of work. The teacher makes only minor attempts to engage students in selfor peer assessment. 	 The teacher makes the standards of high-quality work clear to students. The teacher elicits evidence of student understanding. Students are invited to assess their own work and make improvements; most of them do so. Feedback includes specific and timely guidance, at least for groups of students. 	 Students indicate that they clearly understand the characteristics of high-quality work, and there is evidence that students have helped establish the evaluation criteria. The teacher is constantly "taking the pulse" of the class; monitoring of student understanding is sophisticated and continuous and makes use of strategies to elicit information about individual student understanding. Students monitor their own understanding, either on their own initiative or as a result of tasks set by the teacher. High-quality feedback comes from many sources, including students; it is specific and focused on improvement. 	

 The teacher ignores indications of student boredom or lack of understanding. The teacher brushes aside students' questions. The teacher conveys to students that when they have difficulty learning, it is their fault. In reflecting on practice, the teacher does not indicate that it is important to reach all students. The teacher makes no attempt to adjust the lesson in response to student confusion. 	 The teacher makes perfunctory attempts to incorporate students' questions and interests into the lesson. The teacher conveys to students a level of responsibility for their learning but also his uncertainty about how to assist them. In reflecting on practice, the teacher indicates the desire to reach all students but does not suggest strategies for doing so. The teacher's attempts to adjust the lesson are partially successful. 	 The teacher incorporates students' interests and questions into the heart of the lesson. The teacher conveys to students that she has other approaches to try when the students experience difficulty. In reflecting on practice, the teacher cites multiple approaches undertaken to reach students having difficulty. When improvising becomes necessary, the teacher makes adjustments to the lesson. 	 The teacher seizes on a teachable moment to enhance a lesson. The teacher conveys to students that she won't consider a lesson "finished" until every student understands and that she has a broad range of approaches to use. In reflecting on practice, the teacher can cite others in the school and beyond whom he has contacted for assistance in reaching some students. The teacher's adjustments to the lesson, when they are needed, are designed to assist
Зе			are needed, are designed to assist individual students. Total

Domain 4 PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Unsatisfactory 1	Basic	2	Proficient	3	Distinguished	4	Score
The teacher considers the lesson		is a general sense	 The teacher accurate 		 The teacher's asses 	ssment of the	
but draws incorrect conclusions	of whether or no		the effectiveness o	f instructional	lesson is thoughtful a		
about its effectiveness.	practices were e		activities used.		specific indicators of		
 The teacher makes no 	 The teacher of 		 The teacher ident 		 The teacher's suggestion 		
suggestions for improvement.	modifications for	future instruction.	ways in which a les	sson might be	improvement draw or	n an extensive	
4a			improved.		repertoire.		
There is no system for either	• The teacher ha		 The teacher's pro 		Students contribute		
instructional or noninstructional	•	nt work completion.	recording completion		maintain records indi		
records.		be out of date or	work is efficient an	,	completed and outsta	anding work	
Record-keeping systems are in		students to access	students have acce		assignments.		
disarray and provide incorrect or	the information.		about completed a	nd/or missing	Students contribute		
confusing information.		process for tracking	assignments.	an officient and	maintain data files ind	•	
		s is cumbersome to	The teacher has a structure process for the second se		own progress in learn		
	USE.	a a process for	effective process for	•	 Students contribute noninstructional record 		
	The teacher had tracking some, but the teacher had tracking some, but the teacher had the		student attainment goals; students are		class.		
	•	information, and it	they're progressing		01035.		
		ne errors. issues	• The teacher's pro				
		abilities with some	recording noninstru				
	students but doe		information is both				
4b		mplications of that	effective.				
	knowledge.						

 Little or no information regarding the instructional program is available to parents. Families are unaware of their children's progress. Family engagement activities are lacking. There is some culturally inappropriate communication. 	 School- or district-created materials about the instructional program are sent home. The teacher sends home infrequent or incomplete information about the instructional program. The teacher maintains a school- required gradebook but does little else to inform families about student progress. Some of the teacher's communications are inappropriate to families' cultural norms. 	 The teacher regularly makes information about the instructional program available. The teacher regularly sends home information about student progress. The teacher develops activities designed to engage families successfully and appropriately in their children's learning. Most of the teacher's communications are appropriate to families' cultural norms. 	 Students regularly develop materials to inform their families about the instructional program. Students maintain accurate records about their individual learning progress and frequently share this information with families. Students contribute to regular and ongoing projects designed to engage families in the learning process. All of the teacher's communications are highly sensitive to families' cultural norms. 	
 The teacher's relationships with colleagues are characterized by negativity or combativeness. The teacher purposefully avoids contributing to activities promoting professional inquiry. The teacher avoids involvement in school activities and district and community projects. 	 The teacher has cordial relationships with colleagues. When invited, the teacher participates in activities related to professional inquiry. When asked, the teacher participates in school activities, as well as district and community projects. 	 The teacher has supportive and collaborative relationships with colleagues. The teacher regularly participates in activities related to professional inquiry. The teacher frequently volunteers to participate in school events and school district and community projects. 	 The teacher takes a leadership role in promoting activities related to professional inquiry. The teacher regularly contributes to and leads events that positively impact school life. The teacher regularly contributes to and leads significant district and community projects. 	
 The teacher is not involved in any activity that might enhance knowledge or skill. The teacher purposefully resists discussing performance with supervisors or colleagues. The teacher ignores invitations to join professional organizations or attend conferences. 	 The teacher participates in professional activities when they are required or provided by the district. The teacher reluctantly accepts feedback from supervisors and colleagues. The teacher contributes in a limited fashion to professional organizations. 	 The teacher seeks regular opportunities for continued professional development. The teacher welcomes colleagues and supervisors into the classroom for the purposes of gaining insight from their feedback. The teacher actively participates in organizations designed to contribute to the profession. 	 The teacher seeks regular opportunities for continued professional development, including initiating action research. The teacher actively seeks feedback from supervisors and colleagues. The teacher takes an active leadership role in professional organizations in order to contribute to the profession. 	
4e				

The teacher is dishonest.	The teacher is honest.	The teacher is honest and known	The teacher is considered a leader
The teacher does not notice the	The teacher notices the needs of	for having high standards of	in terms of honesty, integrity, and
needs of students.	students but is inconsistent in	integrity.	confidentiality.
The teacher engages in practices	addressing them.	 The teacher actively addresses 	The teacher is highly proactive in
that are self-serving.	 The teacher does not notice that 	student needs.	serving students.
The teacher willfully rejects district	some school practices result in poor	 The teacher actively works to 	The teacher makes a concerted
regulations.	conditions for students.	provide opportunities for student	effort to ensure opportunities are
	 The teacher makes decisions 	success.	available for all students to be
	professionally but on a limited	The teacher willingly participates	successful.
	basis.	in team and departmental decision	The teacher takes a leadership
	The teacher complies with district	making.	role in team and departmental
	regulations.	The teacher complies completely	decision making.
4f		with district regulations.	The teacher takes a leadership
			role regarding district regulations.
			Total

Domain	Total Points	Average
Domain 1 PLANNING AND PREPARATION		Divided by 6=
Domain 2 THE CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT		Divided by 5=
Domain 3 INSTRUCTION		Divided by 5=
Domain 4 PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES		Divided by 6=
Grand Total		

Teacher's signature acknowledges receipt, not necessarily agreement. Teacher may append written response, if so desired. Any response will be placed in teacher's personnel file, along with evaluation form.

Teacher Signature

Date

Evaluator Signature

Date