



Colorado Teacher's Quality Standards

Observable Practices

Standard 2 – Establish Environment

Element a:

THE TEACHER:

Creates a classroom environment that facilitates: ☐ Mutual respect. ☐ Positive relationships between and among students. ☐ Empathy for each student.

- ☐ Creates a classroom environment conducive to learning.
- ☐ Creates a classroom environment which values diverse perspectives.
- ☐ Establishes a nurturing and caring relationship with each student.

STUDENTS:

- ☐ Respect their classmates and teacher(s).

Interactions with their teacher(s) and each other:

- ☐ Are respectful. ☐ Demonstrate mutual support.

Element b:

THE TEACHER:

- ☐ Creates a classroom environment in which diversity is used to further student learning.
- ☐ Uses instructional approaches and materials that reflect diverse backgrounds and experiences.
- ☐ Acknowledges the value of each student's contributions to the quality of lessons.
- ☐ Is welcoming to diverse family structures.

Establishes processes that result in: ☐ A sense of community among students. ☐ Effective interactions among students. ☐ Respect for individual differences. ☐ Positive social relationships. ☐ Common goals for all students.

STUDENTS:

- ☐ Respect the uniqueness of fellow students.
- ☐ Seek a variety of perspectives to complete group assignments.

Element c:

THE TEACHER:

- ☐ Implements lessons that reflect student interests.
- ☐ Encourages students to expand and enhance their learning.
- ☐ Acknowledges students for their accomplishments.
- ☐ Asks appropriately challenging questions of all students.
- ☐ Scaffolds questions.
- ☐ Gives wait time equitably.
- ☐ Ensures that all students participate in class activities.

STUDENTS:

- ☐ Actively engage in classroom activities.
- ☐ Discuss content and make connections between current lesson and their interests.
- ☐ Encourage fellow students to participate and challenge themselves.
- ☐ Engage in collaborative learning and group processes.

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Element d:**THE TEACHER:**

- ☐ Adapts lesson plans to address individual student needs.
- ☐ Monitors the quality of student participation and performance.
- ☐ Implements recommendations of specialists and colleagues to address student needs.
- ☐ Challenges and supports students to learn to their greatest ability.

STUDENTS:

Advocate for themselves by:

- ☐ Articulate their learning needs to their teacher and/or parent.
- ☐ Communicating freely and openly with teachers about circumstances that affect their classroom performance.
- ☐ Apply coping skills such as self-reflection, self-regulation and persistence to classroom situations.
- ☐ Help fellow classmates by offering support.

Element e:**THE TEACHER:**

- ☐ Establishes a classroom environment that is inviting to families and significant adults.
- ☐ Maintains respectful relationships with students, their families, and/or significant adults.

Element f:**THE TEACHER:**

- ☐ Provides clear expectations to guide student classroom behavior.
- ☐ Holds students accountable for adherence to school and/or class rules.
- ☐ Puts procedures in place to maximize instructional time.
- ☐ Makes maximum use of instructional time.
- ☐ Maintains a safe and orderly environment.

STUDENTS:

- ☐ Stay on task during class periods.
- ☐ Abide by school and class rules.
- ☐ Accept responsibility for their behavior and use of time.
- ☐ Help other students stay on task.

Comments:

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