



Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood

ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE

(Including the Early Adolescence/Mathematics Scoring Rubrics for Assessment Center Exercises)

Scoring Guide for Candidates

For retake candidates who began the Certification process in 2013-14 and earlier.

- **Part 1** provides you with the tools to understand and interpret your scores.
- **Part 2** provides the scoring rubrics for your certificate area, guiding you as you develop your portfolio entries and prepare for your assessment center exercises.

*National Board Certification
Promotes Better Teaching,
Better Learning, Better Schools*

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About This Scoring Guide

The *Scoring Guide for Candidates* is a comprehensive overview of the National Board's scoring process. It is essential reading for anyone pursuing National Board Certification®. Together the two parts of the *Scoring Guide for Candidates* will help you on your path toward becoming a National Board Certified Teacher® (NBCT®).

Part 1: Understanding and Interpreting Your Scores

Part 1 guides you through the scoring process, providing you with the tools to understand and interpret your scores. Applicable to all certificate areas, **Part 1** includes crucial information about the role of the National Board Standards, which represent a professional consensus on the critical aspects of practice that distinguish accomplished teachers in the field and function as the foundation of each assessment.

Additionally, you will find information in **Part 1** about NBPTS® assessors—the qualified professionals who assign your scores. You will also find the score ranges, which will allow you to match your score to the appropriate level of performance. **Part 1** also discusses the National Board's retake policies, relevant to you if you do not meet the performance standard on your initial certification attempt. In **Part 1** you will learn how to interpret your individual scores and, if necessary, develop strategies to improve them.

Part 2: Understanding and Applying the Scoring Criteria

Part 2 provides the scoring rubrics for each portfolio entry and assessment center exercise in your certificate area, guiding you as you develop your portfolio entries and prepare for your assessment center exercises. The rubrics are presented here in a bulleted format to highlight the vital information contained in each. Reading the scoring rubrics will help you think about ways to strengthen your practice and best demonstrate your teaching expertise. The rubrics are the tool that assessors use to determine the appropriate scores for performance in your field.

The NBPTS Web site provides additional documents to assist you in the process of developing your portfolio entries and evaluating your performance. One such document is the [Evaluation of Evidence Guide](#). Each certificate-specific guide corresponds to an individual portfolio entry for your certificate area, and each includes questions that shape how assessors view the evidence you submit.

Other resources that will help you prepare for your assessment include the following certificate-specific documents, all of which are available online at www.boardcertifiedteachers.org:

- *Assessment at a Glance*
- Standards for Accomplished Teaching
- *Portfolio Instructions*



Part 1:

Understanding and Interpreting Your Scores

This resource is available as a PDF file. You may select the link below to view or print **Part 1**.

[Scoring Guide for Candidates, Part 1: Understanding and Interpreting Your Scores](#)



Part 2:

Understanding and Applying the Scoring Criteria

Part 2: Understanding and Applying the Scoring Criteria presents the scoring rubrics for your certificate area. You should read the rubrics while developing your portfolio entries and preparing for your assessment center exercises. These rubrics, which are derived from the Standards, define the levels of accomplished teaching that you must demonstrate. This reference information will help you understand how the rubrics guide assessors in evaluating your work.

Each rubric begins with an overarching statement that summarizes the quality of performance at each of the rubric levels. For example, the overarching statement for a Level 4 rubric might read: "The Level 4 performance provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the teacher's knowledge and practice in his or her field." This precise language is used to distinguish between the four levels of the score scale. The body of the rubric consists of statements organized in a manner that reflects the order of tasks or questions within the entry or exercise. If you are asked to discuss your goals in the first response, for example, then the quality statement about goals will be stated at the beginning of the body of the rubric.

One way to understand the meaning of the entire rubric and how it relates to the quality of a performance is to read across the rubric. You can do this by reading the first sentence for Level 4, the first sentence for Level 3, and so on. This reveals the gradations of quality delineated for each feature of the response. A careful reading of the rubrics is an invaluable step in helping you successfully develop your portfolio entries and prepare for your assessment center exercises.

Your portfolio entries and assessment center exercises are scored holistically. To score holistically, an assessor must look at the entry and exercise for its overall quality and evaluate the work as a whole. The response may have characteristics of adjacent performance levels, but the assessor must assign the score that best describes the work as a whole. When scoring, an assessor reads completely, and views, when applicable, the entire entry and exercise before assigning a score. An assessor should read and review supportively, looking for and rewarding those things done well in the entry or exercise.

For more information about understanding and interpreting your scores, please refer to **Part 1**.

Contents:

- Scoring Rubrics for Portfolio Entries
- Scoring Rubrics for Assessment Center Exercises

Scoring Rubrics for Portfolio Entries

Entry 1: Assessment as a Tool for Unit Planning

In this entry: You submit two assessments for each of two students, as well as a Written Commentary that provides an overview of your unit plan and contextualizes the assessments as they are used to inform your planning. You describe the implementation of the unit plan and any adjustments you made to your teaching during the implementation. You discuss how the students' assessments, as well as their linguistic and cultural diversity, informed your planning.

THE LEVEL 4 performance provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence that the teacher is able to plan and implement a unit of instruction for linguistically and culturally diverse learners, and to administer and interpret appropriate assessments as a means to inform planning.

The Level 4 performance provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence:

- that the teacher sets high, worthwhile, and appropriate language and content goals for student learning based on a detailed knowledge of students' skills, aspirations, and values, as well as their cultural and linguistic history.
- that the teacher recognizes the students' cultural diversity and plans ways for the students to actively participate in the culture of the new language.
- of the teacher's ability to employ appropriate assessment measures in determining the students' language development needs.
- that the teacher plans instruction, which reflects consideration of the unique learning needs of the students and shows appropriate and challenging expectations while integrating subject matter with reading, writing, listening, speaking, and visual literacy within the established goals.
- that the teacher uses instructional resources, including media and/or technological resources, to facilitate language learning.
- of the teacher's ability to determine when to give feedback to students and when given, to make it supportive and constructive feedback that enhances student learning.
- that the teacher accurately describes, analyzes, and evaluates student work, and appropriately applies knowledge of language acquisition and development to future instruction.
- that the teacher engages in reflective thinking whereby she or he describes her or his practice accurately, analyzes it thoughtfully, and reflects on its implications and significance for future instruction.

Overall, there is *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the teacher's ability to plan and implement a unit of instruction for linguistically and culturally diverse learners, and to administer and interpret appropriate assessments as a means to inform planning.

THE LEVEL 3 performance provides *clear* evidence that the teacher is able to plan and implement a unit of instruction for linguistically and culturally diverse learners, and to administer and interpret appropriate assessments as a means to inform planning.

The Level 3 performance provides *clear* evidence:

- that the teacher sets high, worthwhile, and appropriate language and content goals for student learning based on a detailed knowledge of students' skills, aspirations, and values as well as their cultural and linguistic history.
- that the teacher recognizes the students' cultural diversity and plans ways for the students to actively participate in the culture of the new language.
- of the teacher's ability to employ appropriate assessment measures in determining the students' language development needs.
- that the teacher plans instruction, which reflects consideration of the unique learning needs of the students and shows appropriate and challenging expectations while integrating subject matter with reading, writing, listening, speaking, and visual literacy within the established goals.
- that the teacher uses instructional resources, including media and/or technological resources, to facilitate language learning.
- of the teacher's ability to determine when to give feedback to students and when given, to make it supportive and constructive feedback that enhances student learning.
- that the teacher accurately describes, analyzes, and evaluates student work, and appropriately applies knowledge of language acquisition and development to future instruction.
- that the teacher engages in reflective thinking whereby she or he describes her or his practice accurately, analyzes it thoughtfully, and reflects on its implications and significance for future instruction.

A Level 3 performance may show imbalance in the analysis and/or evidence presented for each student or assignment. One part of the response may be more indicative of accomplished practice than another, but overall, there is *clear* evidence of the teacher's ability to plan and implement a unit of instruction for linguistically and culturally diverse learners, and to administer and interpret appropriate assessments as a means to inform planning.

THE LEVEL 2 performance provides *limited* evidence that the teacher is able to plan and implement a unit of instruction for linguistically and culturally diverse learners, and to administer and interpret appropriate assessments as a means to inform planning.

The Level 2 performance provides *limited* evidence:

- that the teacher sets high, worthwhile, and appropriate language and content goals for student learning based on a detailed knowledge of students' skills, aspirations, and values as well as their cultural and linguistic history.
- that the teacher recognizes the students' cultural diversity and plans ways for the students to actively participate in the culture of the new language.
- of the teacher's ability to employ appropriate assessment measures in determining the students' language development needs.
- that the teacher plans instruction, which reflects consideration of the unique learning needs of the students and which shows appropriate expectations while integrating subject matter with reading, writing, listening, speaking, and visual literacy within the established goals.
- that the teacher uses instructional resources, including media and/or technological resources to facilitate language learning.
- of the teacher's ability to determine when to give feedback to students and when given, to make it supportive and constructive feedback that enhances student learning.
- that the teacher accurately describes, analyzes, and evaluates student work, and appropriately applies knowledge of language acquisition and development to future instruction.
- that the teacher engages in reflective thinking whereby she or he describes her or his practice accurately, analyzes it thoughtfully, and reflects on its implications and significance for future instruction.

The Level 2 performance may be characterized by evidence that hints at accomplished practice, but overall, there is *limited* evidence of the teacher's ability to plan and implement a unit of instruction for linguistically and culturally diverse learners, and to administer and interpret appropriate assessments as a means to inform her or his planning.

THE LEVEL 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence that the teacher is able to plan and implement a unit of instruction for linguistically and culturally diverse learners, and to administer and interpret appropriate assessments as a means to inform planning.

The Level 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence:

- that the teacher sets high, worthwhile, and appropriate language and content goals for student learning based on a detailed knowledge of students' skills, aspirations, and values as well as their cultural and linguistic history.
- that the teacher recognizes the students' cultural diversity and plans ways for the students to actively participate in the culture of the new language.
- of the teacher's ability to employ appropriate assessment measures in determining the students' language development needs.
- of the teacher's ability to plan instruction, which reflects consideration of the unique learning needs of the students and which shows appropriate and challenging expectations while integrating subject matter with reading, writing, listening, speaking, and visual literacy within the established goals.
- that the teacher uses instructional resources, including media and/or technological resources, to facilitate language learning.
- of the teacher's ability to determine when to give feedback to students and when given, to make it supportive and constructive feedback that enhances student learning.
- that the teacher accurately describes, analyzes, and evaluates student work, and appropriately applies knowledge of language acquisition and development to future instruction.
- that the teacher engages in reflective thinking whereby she or he describes her or his practice accurately, analyzes it thoughtfully, and reflects on its implications and significance for future instruction.

Overall, there is *little or no* evidence of the teacher's ability to plan and implement a unit of instruction for linguistically and culturally diverse learners, and to administer and interpret appropriate assessments as a means to inform her or his planning.

Entry 2: Scaffolding Learning

In this entry: You submit a 15-minute video recording that illustrates your ability to apply your knowledge of your students as individual content and language learners as you set worthwhile and realistic goals for them and prepare them for the study of a unit, topic, or concept that is new to them. You discuss your instructional objectives, adaptation of instructional resources, and approach to second-language acquisition. You provide evidence that your students are actively engaged with each other, their materials, and/or you in a content-based English language learning experience. You provide a Written Commentary analyzing the video recording and assessment materials.

THE LEVEL 4 performance provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the teacher's ability to facilitate and support students' language development as they actively engage with each other, their materials, and/or the teacher during introduction of new, scaffolded information.

The Level 4 performance provides *clear, consistent and convincing* evidence:

- of the ability to provide a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment.
- of the ability to access and utilize detailed knowledge of students' backgrounds and interests.
- of the ability to actively engage the students in the activities and substance of the lesson.
- of the use of teaching strategies that reflect consideration of the unique learning needs of the students and shows high expectations for all students.
- of the ability to support active learning by scaffolding new information and providing students the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of the scaffolded information.
- of the ability to draw on knowledge of language development and set high, attainable, and worthwhile language-learning goals for the students.
- of the ability to use varied, appropriate, and thought-provoking instructional resources, including media and/or technology, to engage students.
- of the ability to accurately describe, analyze, and evaluate classroom interactions, showing knowledge of students and insight into the students' learning.
- of the ability to engage in reflective thinking in which the teacher describes her or his practice accurately, analyzes it fully and thoughtfully, and reflects on its implications and significance for future teaching.

Overall, there is *clear, consistent and convincing* evidence of the teacher's ability to facilitate and support students' language development as they actively engage with each other, their materials, and/or the teacher during introduction of new, scaffolded information.

THE LEVEL 3 performance provides *clear* evidence of the teacher’s ability to facilitate and support students’ language development as they actively engage with each other, their materials, and/or the teacher during introduction of new, scaffolded information.

The Level 3 performance provides *clear* evidence:

- of the ability to provide a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment.
- of the ability to access and utilize detailed knowledge of students’ backgrounds and interests.
- of the ability to actively engage the students in the activities and substance of the lesson.
- of the use of teaching strategies that reflect consideration of the unique learning needs of the students and shows high expectations for all students.
- of the ability to support active learning by scaffolding new information and providing students the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of the scaffolded information.
- of the ability to draw on knowledge of language development and set high, attainable, and worthwhile language-learning goals for the students.
- of the ability to use varied, appropriate, and thought-provoking instructional resources, including media and/or technology, to engage students.
- of the ability to accurately describe, analyze, and evaluate classroom interactions, showing knowledge of students and insight into the students’ learning.
- of the ability to engage in reflective thinking in which the teacher describes her or his practice accurately, analyzes it fully and thoughtfully, and reflects on its implications and significance for future teaching.

One part of the response may be more indicative of accomplished practice than another, but overall, there is *clear* evidence of the teacher’s ability to facilitate and support students’ language development as they actively engage with each other, their materials, and/or the teacher during introduction of new, scaffolded information.

THE LEVEL 2 performance provides *limited* evidence of the teacher's ability to facilitate and support students' language development as they engage with each other, their materials, and/or the teacher during introduction of new, scaffolded information.

The Level 2 performance provides *limited* evidence:

- of the ability to provide a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment.
- of the ability to access and utilize detailed knowledge of students' backgrounds and interests.
- of the ability to actively engage the students in the activities and substance of the lesson.
- of the use of teaching strategies that reflect consideration of the unique learning needs of the students and shows routine expectations for all students.
- of the ability to support active learning by scaffolding new information and providing students the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of the scaffolded information.
- of the ability to draw on knowledge of language development and set high, attainable, and worthwhile language-learning goals for the students.
- of the ability to use varied, appropriate, and thought-provoking instructional resources, including media and/or technology, to engage students.
- of the ability to accurately describe, analyze, and evaluate classroom interactions, showing knowledge of students and insight into the students' learning.
- of the ability to engage in reflective thinking in which the teacher describes her or his practice accurately, analyzes it fully and thoughtfully, and reflects on its implications and significance for future teaching.

The Level 2 performance may be characterized by evidence that hints at accomplished practice, but overall, there is *limited* evidence of the teacher's ability to facilitate and support students' language development as they engage with each other, their materials, and/or the teacher during introduction of new, scaffolded information.

THE LEVEL 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence of the teacher's ability to facilitate and support students' language development as they engage with each other, their materials, and/or the teacher during introduction of new, scaffolded information.

The Level 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence:

- of the ability to provide a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment.
- of the ability to access and utilize detailed knowledge of students' backgrounds and interests.
- of the ability to actively engage the students in the activities and substance of the lesson.
- of the use of teaching strategies that reflect consideration of the unique learning needs of the students and shows routine expectations for all students.
- of the ability to support active learning by scaffolding new information and providing students the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of the scaffolded information.
- of the ability to draw on knowledge of language development and set high, attainable, and worthwhile language-learning goals for the students.
- of the ability to use varied, appropriate, and thought-provoking instructional resources, including media and/or technology, to engage students.
- of the ability to accurately describe, analyze, and evaluate classroom interactions, showing knowledge of students and insight into the students' learning.
- of the ability to engage in reflective thinking in which the teacher describes her or his practice accurately, analyzes it fully and thoughtfully, and reflects on its implications and significance for future teaching.

Overall, the Level 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence of the teacher's ability to facilitate and support students' language development as they engage with each other, their materials, and/or the teacher during introduction of new, scaffolded information.

Entry 3: Facilitating Interactions: Small Groups

In this entry: You submit a 15-minute video recording to demonstrate your practice and your ability to facilitate small interactive groups of linguistically and culturally diverse learners who are engaged in collaborative work. You provide evidence of how you foster the engagement of students in a meaningful English language activity in which students share ideas and listen attentively to each other. You provide a Written Commentary analyzing the video recording and assessment materials.

THE LEVEL 4 performance provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the ability to engage linguistically and culturally diverse learners in small-group collaborative learning and to reflect on the planning and implementation of the lesson.

The Level 4 performance provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence:

- of the ability to provide a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment.
- of the ability to facilitate and support students' learning and language development.
- of the ability to actively engage students in the activities and substance of the lesson.
- of the ability to support active learning by asking insightful, open-ended questions, and listening attentively to student responses and to encourage student-initiated discussion.
- of the ability to access and utilize detailed knowledge of students' backgrounds and interests, which is reflected in teaching strategies and demonstrates understanding of the unique learning styles of the students.
- of the ability to draw on the knowledge of language development and set high, attainable and worthwhile language-learning goals for the students.
- of the ability to connect learning goals to an integration of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and visual literacy objectives.
- of the ability to plan and use organized, sequenced, and structured learning activities that afford students significant learning experiences that enable the students to achieve the stated goals.
- of the use of varied, appropriate, and thought-provoking instructional resources, which include media and/or technology, to engage students.
- of the ability to create situations in which the learners can negotiate meaning through interactions with the teacher and each other.
- of the ability to accurately describe, analyze, and evaluate group interactions, showing knowledge of students and insight into student learning.
- of the teacher's ability to fully and thoughtfully describe, analyze, and reflect on the implications of her or his practice for future teaching.

Overall, there is *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the teacher's ability to engage linguistically and culturally diverse learners in small-group collaborative learning and to reflect on the planning and implementation of the lesson.

THE LEVEL 3 performance provides *clear* evidence of the ability to engage linguistically and culturally diverse learners in small-group collaborative learning and to reflect on the planning and implementation of the lesson.

The Level 3 performance provides *clear* evidence:

- of the ability to provide a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment.
- of the ability to facilitate and support students' learning and language development.
- of the ability to actively engage students in the activities and substance of the lesson.
- of the ability to support active learning by asking insightful, open-ended questions, and listening attentively to student responses and to encourage student-initiated discussion.
- of the ability to access and utilize detailed knowledge of students' backgrounds and interests, which is reflected in teaching strategies and demonstrates understanding of the unique learning styles of the students.
- of the ability to draw on the knowledge of language development and set high, attainable and worthwhile language-learning goals for the students.
- of the ability to connect learning goals to an integration of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and visual literacy objectives.
- of the ability to plan and use organized, sequenced, and structured learning activities that afford students significant learning experiences that enable the students to achieve the stated goals.
- of the use of varied, appropriate, and thought-provoking instructional resources, which include media and/or technology, to engage students.
- of the ability to create situations in which the learners can negotiate meaning through interactions with the teacher and each other.
- of the ability to accurately describe, analyze, and evaluate group interactions, showing knowledge of students and insight into student learning.
- of the teacher's ability to fully and thoughtfully describe, analyze, and reflect on the implications of her or his practice for future teaching.

One part of the performance may be more indicative of accomplished practice than another, but overall, there is *clear* evidence of the teacher's ability to engage linguistically and culturally diverse learners in small-group collaborative learning and to reflect on the planning and implementation of the lesson.

THE LEVEL 2 performance provides *limited* evidence of the ability to engage linguistically and culturally diverse learners in small-group collaborative learning and to reflect on the planning and implementation of the lesson.

The Level 2 performance provides *limited* evidence:

- of the ability to provide a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment.
- of the ability to facilitate and support students' learning and language development.
- of the ability to actively engage students in the activities and substance of the lesson.
- of the ability to support active learning by asking insightful, open-ended questions, and listening attentively to student responses and to encourage student-initiated discussion.
- of the ability to access and utilize detailed knowledge of students' backgrounds and interests, which is reflected in teaching strategies and demonstrates understanding of the unique learning styles of the students.
- of the ability to draw on the knowledge of language development and set high, attainable, and worthwhile language-learning goals for the students.
- of the ability to connect learning goals to an integration of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and visual literacy objectives.
- of the ability to plan and use organized, sequenced, and structured learning activities that afford students significant learning experiences that enable the students to achieve the stated goals.
- of the use of varied, appropriate, and thought-provoking instructional resources, which include media and/or technology, to engage students.
- of the ability to create situations in which the learners can negotiate meaning through interactions with the teacher and each other.
- of the ability to accurately describe, analyze, and evaluate group interactions, showing knowledge of students and insight into student learning.
- of the teacher's ability to fully and thoughtfully describe, analyze, and reflect on the implications of her or his practice for future teaching.

The Level 2 performance may be characterized by evidence that hints at accomplished practice, but overall, there is *limited* evidence of the teacher's ability to engage linguistically and culturally diverse learners in small-group collaborative learning and to reflect on the planning and implementation of the lesson.

THE LEVEL 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence of the ability to engage linguistically and culturally diverse learners in small-group collaborative learning and to reflect on the planning and implementation of the lesson.

The Level 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence:

- of the ability to provide a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment.
- of the ability to facilitate and support students' learning and language development.
- of the ability to actively engage students in the activities and substance of the lesson.
- of the ability to support active learning by asking insightful, open-ended questions, and listening attentively to student responses and to encourage student-initiated discussion.
- of the ability to access and utilize detailed knowledge of students' backgrounds and interests, which is reflected in teaching strategies and demonstrates understanding of the unique learning styles of the students.
- of the ability to draw on the knowledge of language development and set high, attainable, and worthwhile language-learning goals for the students.
- of the ability to connect learning goals to an integration of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and visual literacy objectives.
- of the ability to plan and use organized, sequenced, and structured learning activities that afford students significant learning experiences that enable the students to achieve the stated goals.
- of the use of varied, appropriate, and thought-provoking instructional resources, which include media and/or technology, to engage students.
- of the ability to create situations in which the learners can negotiate meaning through interactions with the teacher and each other.
- of the ability to accurately describe, analyze, and evaluate group interactions, showing knowledge of students and insight into student learning.
- of the teacher's ability to fully and thoughtfully describe, analyze, and reflect on the implications of her or his practice for future teaching.

Overall, there is *little or no* evidence of the teacher's ability to engage linguistically and culturally diverse learners in small-group collaborative learning and to reflect on the planning and implementation of the lesson.

Entry 4: Documented Accomplishments: Contributions to Student Learning

In this entry: You illustrate your partnerships with students' families and community, and your development as a learner and collaborator with other professionals by submitting descriptions and documentation of your activities and accomplishments in those areas. Your description must make the connection between each accomplishment and its impact on student learning.

THE LEVEL 4 performance provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the teacher's ability to impact student learning through work with colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.

The Level 4 performance provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence:

- that the teacher treats parents and other interested adults as valued partners in the child's education, and uses thoughtfully chosen, appropriate strategies for reaching out to the families of his or her students. The selected strategies may or may not be original to the teacher, but they are implemented with skill and enthusiasm and are effective in engaging parents and other interested adults in communication that is highly interactive, fostering extensive two-way dialogue focused primarily on substantive teaching and learning issues and individual student progress.
- that the teacher facilitates ongoing, mutually beneficial communications between students and the wider community in a way that enhances teaching and learning.
- that the teacher has strengthened his or her own teaching practice through conscious and deliberate professional development to strengthen knowledge, skills, and abilities in areas that are relevant to his or her teaching and learning context for the purpose of impacting student learning.
- that the teacher has worked collaboratively with colleagues to improve teaching and learning, either within the school or in the wider professional community.
- that the teacher has shared his or her expertise in a leadership role with other educators through facilitating the professional development of other teachers, improving instructional practices, or advocating for positive change in educational policy.
- that the teacher's work outside the classroom has been driven by a conscious and deliberate focus on improving teaching and learning, as opposed to merely fulfilling job requirements. The descriptions and documentation provide a rich, detailed, coherent view of a teacher who has made an impact on student learning through work with other colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.
- that the teacher accurately analyzes and thoughtfully reflects on the significance of all accomplishments taken together, and can appropriately plan for future opportunities to impact student learning.

Overall, there is *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the teacher's ability to impact student learning through work with colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.

THE LEVEL 3 performance provides *clear* evidence of the teacher's ability to impact student learning through work with colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.

The Level 3 performance provides *clear* evidence:

- that the teacher treats parents and other interested adults as valued partners in the child's education, and uses appropriate strategies for reaching out to the families of his or her students. The selected strategies may or may not be original to the teacher, but they are effective in engaging parents and other interested adults in communication that is interactive, fostering two-way dialogue focused primarily on substantive teaching and learning issues and individual student progress.
- that the teacher facilitates ongoing, mutually beneficial communications between students and the wider community in a way that enhances teaching and learning.
- that the teacher has strengthened his or her own teaching practice through conscious and deliberate professional development to strengthen knowledge, skills, and abilities in areas that are relevant to his or her teaching and learning context.
- that the teacher has worked with colleagues as a partner or collaborator to improve teaching and learning, either within the school or in a larger professional context, such as within a professional organization.
- that the teacher has shared his or her expertise in a leadership role with other educators through facilitating the professional development of other teachers, improving instructional practices, or advocating for positive changes in educational policy.
- that the teacher's work outside the classroom has been driven by a conscious focus on improving teaching and learning, as opposed to merely fulfilling job requirements. The descriptions and evidence provide a coherent view of a teacher who has made an impact on student learning through work with other colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.
- that the teacher accurately analyzes and thoughtfully reflects on the significance of all accomplishments taken together, and can appropriately plan for future opportunities to impact student learning.

Overall, there is *clear* evidence of the teacher's ability to impact student learning through work with colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.

THE LEVEL 2 performance provides *limited* evidence of the teacher's ability to impact student learning through work with colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.

The Level 2 performance provides *limited* evidence:

- that the teacher treats parents and other interested adults as valued partners in the child's education, and uses appropriate strategies for reaching out to the families of his or her students. The rationale for the selected strategies may be a bit vague and/or there may be limited evidence that the strategies are effective in engaging parents and other interested adults. There may be evidence that though the strategies work with many families, some families are not being fully engaged.
- that the communications with families are focused on substantive teaching and learning issues. Instead, many of the communications may be dominated by procedural issues, behavior, or disciplinary matters, or the communications may not show much differentiation between individual students, with the same communication going to all families.
- that the communications with families are interactive. There may be frequent communications home, but these may rely primarily on one-way media, such as notes home or newsletters. The evidence may suggest that parents are well informed about what is going on in the classroom, but there is limited evidence of two-way dialogue with families.
- regarding meaningful communications between the students and the wider community for the purpose of enhancing teaching and learning.
- that the teacher has strengthened his or her own teaching practice through professional development; even if the teacher has engaged in extensive professional development activities, it may be unclear how these activities relate to the knowledge, skills, and abilities that are relevant to his or her teaching and learning context.
- that the teacher has shared what he or she has learned with colleagues by working with them in a role as a partner, collaborator, or leader.

The evidence in a Level 2 performance may indicate that the teacher is an accomplished practitioner within his or her own classroom, but that he or she has not shared his or her expertise with others in a significant way through professional development of other teachers, improving instructional practices, or advocating for positive change in educational policy.

The evidence may suggest that the preponderance of the teacher's activities outside of the classroom has been to fulfill job requirements, as opposed to being a conscious and deliberate effort to impact student learning and improve teaching and learning.

- that the teacher analyzes and reflects on the significance of all accomplishments taken together, and can appropriately plan for future opportunities to impact student learning.

The Level 2 performance may be characterized by evidence that occasionally hints at accomplished practice, but overall, there is *limited* evidence of the teacher's ability to impact student learning through work with colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.

THE LEVEL 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence of the teacher's ability to impact student learning through work with colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.

The Level 1 performance provides *little or no* evidence:

- that the teacher treats parents and other interested adults as partners in the child's education, and uses appropriate strategies for reaching out to the families of his or her students. The rationale for the selected strategies may be very vague, unclear, or absent.
- that the strategies are effective in engaging parents and other interested adults. There may be evidence that some families are overlooked or ignored. There is little or no evidence that the communications with families are focused on substantive teaching and learning issues. Instead, the communications are taken up almost exclusively by procedural issues, behavior, or disciplinary matters.
- that the communications with families are interactive. Communications with families are entirely one-way and/or infrequent. Parents may not be kept informed about what is going on in the classroom. If evidence regarding outreach to the wider community is present, the connections may promote trivial interactions with little impact on student learning.

The Level 1 performance may contain negative or disparaging comments about parents, community, or professionals with little or no evidence of the teacher's efforts to improve the situation.

- that the teacher has strengthened his or her own teaching practice through professional development. If professional development activities are cited, they may be very sketchy or weak or of little or no relevance to the teacher's context.
- that the teacher has worked with colleagues as a partner, collaborator, or leader. If school projects are cited, there may be little or no evidence of their impact on teaching and learning, or the teacher's role in the project may be very unclear or very passive.

There may be evidence that the teacher is an accomplished practitioner within his or her own classroom, but there is little or no evidence that he or she has shared his or her expertise with others.

The evidence may suggest that the teacher's work outside of the classroom has been carried out solely to fulfill job requirements, as opposed to being a conscious and deliberate effort to improve teaching and learning.

- that the teacher analyzes and reflects on the significance of all accomplishments taken together, and can appropriately plan for future opportunities to impact student learning.

Overall, there is *little or no* evidence of the teacher's ability to impact student learning through work with colleagues, professionals, families, and the community, and as a learner.

Scoring Rubrics for Assessment Center Exercises

Exercise 1: Algebra and Functions

In this exercise: You demonstrate knowledge by using the language of algebra to model problem situations; using algebraic techniques and procedures; and identifying and explaining the links between basic patterns and concepts related to functions.

THE LEVEL 4 response provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the ability to model problem situations, employ algebraic techniques and procedures, and explain a functional relationship depicted in a given situation.

Characteristics:

- complete and accurate graphical representation of a given set of data
- accurate identification of an algebraic function and complete and accurate algebraic equation that fits the given data
- accurate and fully supported solutions to algebraic equations
- complete and accurate modeling of a given situation, and appropriate identification of its functional relationship

THE LEVEL 3 response provides *clear* evidence of the ability to model problem situations, employ algebraic techniques and procedures, and explain a functional relationship depicted in a given situation.

Characteristics:

- accurate graphical representation of a given set of data
- accurate identification of an algebraic function and complete and accurate algebraic equation that fits the given data
- accurate solutions to algebraic equations, though lacking full support
- a representative sketch and logical explanation of the functional relationship in a given situation

THE LEVEL 2 response provides *limited* evidence of the ability to model problem situations, employ algebraic techniques and procedures, and explain a functional relationship depicted in a given situation.

Characteristics:

- incomplete and/or inaccurate graphical representation of a given set of data
- inaccurate identification of an algebraic function and an incomplete algebraic equation that does not fit the given data
- somewhat inaccurate and unsupported solutions to algebraic equations
- an incomplete sketch and/or incomplete explanation of the functional relationship in a given situation

THE LEVEL 1 response provides *little or no* evidence of the ability to model problem situations, employ algebraic techniques and procedures, and explain a functional relationship depicted in a given situation.

Characteristics:

- incomplete and inaccurate graphical representation and an algebraic function
- inaccurate or missing identification of an algebraic function and an incomplete algebraic equation that does not fit the given data, or the equation is missing
- inaccurate or missing solutions to algebraic equations
- an incomplete or missing sketch and incomplete or missing explanation of the functional relationship in a given situation

Exercise 2: Connections

In this exercise: You demonstrate knowledge of intradisciplinary and interdisciplinary connections to describe the relationship between related concepts within mathematics and to describe the application of a given mathematical concept to a topic from another curricular discipline.

THE LEVEL 4 response provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the ability to describe the relationship between two concepts within mathematics and to describe the application of a given mathematical concept to a topic from another curricular discipline.

Characteristics:

- an accurate description and thorough explanation of the relationship between two mathematical concepts
- a thorough description of the application of a given mathematical concept to a given topic from another discipline

THE LEVEL 3 response provides *clear* evidence of the ability to describe the relationship between two concepts within mathematics and to describe the application of a given mathematical concept to a topic from another curricular discipline.

Characteristics:

- an adequate description and explanation of the relationship between two mathematical concepts
- an adequate description of the application of a given mathematical concept to a given topic from another discipline

THE LEVEL 2 response provides *limited* evidence of the ability to describe the relationship between two concepts within mathematics and to describe the application of a given mathematical concept to a topic from another curricular discipline.

Characteristics:

- incomplete description and explanation of the relationship between two mathematical concepts
- incomplete description of the application of a given mathematical concept to a given topic from another discipline

THE LEVEL 1 response provides *little or no* evidence of the ability to describe the relationship between two concepts within mathematics and to describe the application of a given mathematical concept to a topic from another curricular discipline.

Characteristics:

- an incomplete, significantly flawed, or missing description and explanation of the relationship between two mathematical concepts
- an incomplete, significantly flawed, or missing description of the application of a given mathematical concept to a given topic from another discipline

Exercise 3: Data Analysis

In this exercise: You demonstrate knowledge of data analysis by creating appropriate graphical representations of given data, and analyzing and interpreting given data.

THE LEVEL 4 response provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the ability to provide various graphical representations and interpretations of a given set of data.

Characteristics:

- complete and accurate graphical representation of a given set of data
- meaningful interpretation of the data as seen through the graphical representation
- appropriate and accurate alternate graphical representation of the data
- meaningful, accurate, and fully distinct interpretation of the data as seen through its alternate graphical representation

THE LEVEL 3 response provides *clear* evidence of the ability to provide various graphical representations and interpretations of a given set of data.

Characteristics:

- mostly accurate graphical representation of a given set of data
- meaningful interpretation of the data as seen through the graphical representation
- mostly accurate and appropriate alternate graphical representation of the data
- meaningful and distinct interpretation of the data as seen through its alternate graphical representation

THE LEVEL 2 response provides *limited* evidence of the ability to provide various graphical representations and interpretations of a given set of data.

Characteristics:

- somewhat inaccurate graphical representation of a given set of data
- somewhat irrelevant interpretation of the data as seen through the graphical representation
- some inappropriate or inaccurate alternate graphical representation of the data
- some inaccuracies or irrelevancies or nondistinct interpretation of the data as seen through its alternate graphical representation

THE LEVEL 1 response provides *little or no* evidence of the ability to provide various graphical representations and interpretations of a given set of data.

Characteristics:

- inaccurate graphical representation of a given set of data
- irrelevant interpretation of the data as seen through the graphical representation
- inappropriate or inaccurate alternate graphical representation of the data
- inaccurate or irrelevant or nondistinct interpretation of the data as seen through its alternate graphical representation

Exercise 4: Geometry

In this exercise: You demonstrate knowledge of geometry by performing the transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional figure, and analyzing the overall effects on a three-dimensional figure caused by a change in one of the figure's dimensions.

THE LEVEL 4 response provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the ability to perform the transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional object, and analyze the overall effects on a three-dimensional object caused by a change in one of the object's dimension(s).

Characteristics:

- accurate transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional object
- a thorough and accurate analysis of the effects on a three-dimensional object by a change in one of its dimension(s)

THE LEVEL 3 response provides *clear* evidence of the ability to perform the transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional object, and analyze the overall effects on a three-dimensional object caused by a change in one of the object's dimension(s).

Characteristics:

- mostly accurate transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional object
- an accurate analysis of the effects on a three-dimensional object by a change in one of its dimension(s), though there may be a minor calculation flaw

THE LEVEL 2 response provides *limited* evidence of the ability to perform the transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional object, and analyze the overall effects on a three-dimensional object caused by a change in one of the object's dimension(s).

Characteristics:

- somewhat inaccurate transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional object
- a somewhat incomplete or inaccurate analysis of the effects on a three-dimensional object by a change in one of its dimension(s)

THE LEVEL 1 response provides *little or no* evidence of the ability to perform the transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional object, and analyze the overall effects on a three-dimensional object caused by a change in one of the object's dimension(s).

Characteristics:

- largely inaccurate, or missing, transformations of dilation, reflection, rotation, and translation on a two-dimensional object
- a significantly flawed, or missing, analysis of the effects on a three-dimensional object by a change in one of its dimension(s)

Exercise 5: Number and Operation Sense

In this exercise: You demonstrate knowledge of different sets of numbers within the real number system, the ability to evaluate numerical expressions, and the ability to use proportionality to model a variety of situations.

THE LEVEL 4 response provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the ability to create numerical expressions from a given set of numbers, and to use proportions to determine ratios and percents.

Characteristics:

- an accurate numerical expression resulting in a rational number greater than the largest value in the set
- an accurate numerical expression resulting in an irrational number
- appropriate and accurate use of the concept of proportionality with respect to both ratio and percent

THE LEVEL 3 response provides *clear* evidence of the ability to create numerical expressions from a given set of numbers, and to use proportions to determine ratios and percents.

Characteristics:

- an accurate numerical expression resulting in a rational number, though a set member or an operation may be repeated, or the wrong set of numbers may be used
- an accurate numerical expression resulting in an irrational number, though a set member or an operation may be repeated or the wrong set of numbers may be used
- appropriate and largely accurate use of the concept of proportionality with respect to both ratio and percent

THE LEVEL 2 response provides *limited* evidence of the ability to create numerical expressions from a given set of numbers, and to use proportions to determine ratios and percents.

Characteristics:

- a somewhat inaccurate numerical expression resulting in a rational number
- a somewhat inaccurate numerical expression resulting in an irrational number
- somewhat inappropriate and inaccurate use of the concept of proportionality with respect to both ratio and percent

THE LEVEL 1 response provides *little or no* evidence of the ability to create numerical expressions from a given set of numbers, and to use proportions to determine ratios and percents.

Characteristics:

- an inaccurate numerical expression resulting in a rational number
- a numerical expression that does not result in an irrational number
- significantly inappropriate and inaccurate use of the concept of proportionality with respect to both ratio and percent

Exercise 6: Right Triangle Trigonometry

In this exercise: You use your knowledge of right triangle trigonometry to analyze several situations involving right triangles, including one in which you provide a graphical representation and a solution to a real-world problem involving right triangle trigonometry.

THE LEVEL 4 response provides *clear, consistent, and convincing* evidence of the ability to solve trigonometry problems involving side lengths and angles; and provide a graphical representation of and solution to a real-world problem.

Characteristics:

- accurate and complete numerical solution to a problem that involves finding lengths associated with a given geometric figure;
- accurate and complete solution of a problem that involves finding measures of angles associated with a given geometric figure; and
- accurate graphical representation of a real-world situation and a complete and accurate numerical solution to the problem.

THE LEVEL 3 response provides *clear* evidence of the ability to solve trigonometry problems involving side lengths and angles; and provide a graphical representation of and solution to a real-world problem.

Characteristics:

- accurate numerical solution to a problem that involves finding lengths associated with a given geometric figure;
- accurate numerical solution of a problem that involves finding measures of angles associated with a given geometric figure, although some details may be lacking; and
- accurate graphical representation of a real-world situation and an accurate numerical solution to the problem.

THE LEVEL 2 response provides *limited* evidence of the ability to solve trigonometry problems involving side lengths and angles; and provide a graphical representation of and solution to a real-world problem.

Characteristics:

- incomplete or inaccurate solution to a problem that involves finding lengths associated with a given geometric figure;
- incomplete or inaccurate solution of a problem that involves finding measures of angles associated with a given geometric figure; and
- partially accurate graphical representation of a real-world situation and an incomplete numerical solution to the problem.

THE LEVEL 1 response provides *little or no* evidence of the ability to solve trigonometry problems involving side lengths and angles; and provide a graphical representation of and solution to a real-world problem.

Characteristics:

- inappropriate or incomplete solution to a problem that involves finding lengths associated with a given geometric figure;
- inappropriate or incomplete solution of a problem that involves finding measures of angles associated with a given geometric figure; and
- inaccurate graphical representation of a real-world situation and an incomplete or missing numerical solution to the problem.

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