

Classroom Observation Form 1 Formal Observation

Directions: This form is to be used for probationary teachers and teachers with continuing contract status. Observers should use the form to provide feedback to teachers about the observation.

Teacher's Name	Date Observed	Time
Observer's Name	The teacher is: <input type="checkbox"/> Probationary <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Contract	

1. Professional Knowledge

The teacher demonstrates an understanding of the curriculum, subject content, and the developmental needs of students by providing relevant learning experiences.

- Effectively addresses appropriate curriculum standards.
- Integrates key content elements and facilitates students' use of higher level thinking skills in instruction.
- Demonstrates ability to link present content with past and future learning experiences, other subject areas, and real world experiences and applications.
- Demonstrates an accurate knowledge of the subject area(s) taught.
- Demonstrates skills relevant to the subject area(s) taught.
- Bases instruction on goals that reflect high expectations and an understanding of the subject.
- Demonstrates an understanding of the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development of the age group.
- Communicates clearly and checks for understanding.

Comments:

2. Instructional Planning

The teacher plans using the Virginia Standards of Learning, the school's curriculum, effective strategies, resources, and data to meet the needs of all students.

- Uses student learning data to guide planning.
- Plans time realistically for pacing, content mastery, and transitions.
- Plans for differentiated instruction.
- Aligns lesson objectives to the school's curriculum and student learning needs.
- Develops appropriate long- and short-range plans and adapts plans when needed.

Comments:

3. Instructional Delivery

The teacher effectively engages students in learning by using a variety of instructional strategies in order to meet individual learning needs.

- Engages and maintains students in active learning.
- Builds upon students' existing knowledge and skills.
- Differentiates instruction to meet the students' needs.
- Reinforces learning goals consistently throughout lessons.
- Uses a variety of effective instructional strategies and resources.
- Uses instructional technology to enhance student learning.
- Communicates clearly and checks for understanding.

Comments:

4. Assessment of and for Student Learning

The teacher systematically gathers, analyzes, and uses all relevant data to measure student academic progress, guide instructional content and delivery methods, and provide timely feedback to both students and parents throughout the school year.

- Uses pre-assessment data to develop expectations for students, to differentiate instruction, and to document learning.
- Involves students in setting learning goals and monitoring their own progress.
- Uses a variety of assessment strategies and instruments that are valid and appropriate for the content and for the student population.
- Aligns student assessment with established curriculum standards and benchmarks.
- Uses assessment tools for both formative and summative purposes and uses grading practices that report final mastery in relationship to content goals and objectives.
- Uses assessment tools for both formative and summative purposes to inform, guide, and adjust students' learning.
- Gives constructive and frequent feedback to students on their learning.

Comments:

5. Learning Environment

The teacher uses resources, routines, and procedures to provide a respectful, positive, safe, student-centered environment that is conducive to learning.

- Arranges the classroom to maximize learning while providing a safe environment.
- Establishes clear expectations, with student input, for classroom rules and procedures early in the school year, and enforces them consistently and fairly.
- Maximizes instructional time and minimizes disruptions.
- Establishes a climate of trust and teamwork by being fair, caring, respectful, and enthusiastic.
- Promotes cultural sensitivity.
- Respects students' diversity, including language, culture, race, gender, and special needs.
- Actively listens and pays attention to students' needs and responses.
- Maximizes instructional learning time by working with students individually as well as in small groups or whole groups.

Comments:

6. Professionalism

The teacher maintains a commitment to professional ethics, communicates effectively, and takes responsibility for and participates in professional growth that results in enhanced student learning.

- Collaborates and communicates effectively within the school community to promote students' well-being and success.
- Adheres to federal and state laws, school policies, and ethical guidelines.
- Incorporates learning from professional growth opportunities into instructional practice.
- Sets goals for improvement of knowledge and skills.
- Engages in activities outside the classroom intended for school and student enhancement.
- Works in a collegial and collaborative manner with administrators, other school personnel, and the community.
- Builds positive and professional relationships with parents/guardians through frequent and effective communication concerning students' progress.
- Serves as a contributing member of the school's professional learning community through collaboration with teaching colleagues.
- Demonstrates consistent mastery of standard oral and written English in all communication.

Comments:

7. Student Academic Progress

The work of the teacher results in acceptable, measurable, and appropriate student academic progress.

- Sets acceptable, measurable, and appropriate achievement goals for student learning progress based on baseline data.
- Documents the progress of each student throughout the year.
- Provides evidence that achievement goals have been met, including the state-provided growth measure when available as well as other measures of academic progress.
- Uses available performance outcome data to continually document and communicate student progress and develop interim learning targets.

Comments:

Additional Comments:

Teacher's Name _____

Teacher's Signature _____ Date _____

Observer's Name _____

Observer's Signature _____ Date _____