Teacher Evaluation Rubrics

by Kim Marshall - Revised January 2, 2014

Organization, Rationale, and Suggestions for Implementation

- 1. The rubrics have six domains covering all aspects of a teacher's job performance:
 - A. Planning and Preparation for Learning
 - B. Classroom Management
 - C. Delivery of Instruction
 - D. Monitoring, Assessment, and Follow-Up
 - E. Family and Community Outreach
 - F. Professional Responsibilities
- 2. The rubrics use a four-level rating scale:
 - 4 Highly Effective Master teacher performance that meets very demanding criteria
 - 3 Effective Solid, expected professional performance; teachers should feel good about scoring at this level
 - 2 Improvement Necessary Performance is mediocre; no teacher should be content to remain at this level
 - 1 Does Not Meet Standards Unacceptable performance leading to an improvement plan, intensive support, and, if improvement isn't made within a reasonable amount of time, dismissal
- 3. These rubrics aim to provide a shared definition of the work teachers do with students and colleagues. To gather the information needed to fill out the rubrics at the end of a school year, supervisors need to make frequent, short, unannounced classroom visits (at least ten per teacher per year); have a face-to-face coaching conversation after each one (ideally in the teacher's classroom when students aren't there); regularly observe teachers in team meetings and other settings; and possibly look at student survey data. The rubrics should *not* be used as checklists during classroom visits or in post-observation conferences their comprehensive scope and evaluative tone are likely to hamper thoughtful observation and effective coaching. Rather, the rubrics should inform teachers' work and supervisors' observations throughout the year and serve as a memory prompt and structuring protocol when it's time to evaluate the year's work.
- 4. This suggests that the rubrics should be used formally at three points: (a) As school opens, teachers self-assess, meet with their supervisor, and set 2-3 improvement goals; (b) At mid-year, teacher and supervisor meet and compare ratings page by page, discuss any differences, assess progress on the teacher's goals, and identify areas for growth; and (c) At the end of the year, teacher and supervisor repeat this process and reach closure on the year's ratings (the supervisor, of course, has the final say). Evaluation meetings work best if the teacher and supervisor fill out the rubrics beforehand, discuss only the areas where they disagree, and talk about those areas based on the teacher's actual performance. Some supervisors sugar-coat criticism and give inflated scores to keep the peace and avoid hurt feelings. This does not help teachers improve. The best thing a supervisor can do for an underperforming teacher is to visit frequently, give candid, evidence-based feedback, listen to the teacher's concerns, and organize robust follow-up support.
- 5. When scoring each rubric line, it's best to read the *Effective* level first, and if that doesn't capture the teacher's work, look left or right and mark the level that contains the most accurate description. When all ten lines are done, the page provides a graphic display of areas that deserve praise and those that need improvement. The supervisor gives an overall rating at the bottom and writes a brief comment (if needed), and when all six pages have been scored, records the ratings on the summary page, gives the teacher an overall rating, and they both write summative comments and sign off.
- 6. When an entire staff is scored honestly using the rubrics, it's possible to create a color-coded spreadsheet that can serve as a (confidential) road-map for schoolwide professional development (see the samples on page 9 and 10).
- 7. The rubrics synthesize an extensive research base on classroom and professional practices that affect children's learning. Although student achievement is not evaluated by the rubrics, it's reasonable to assume that in a well-run school (positive climate, professional working conditions, aligned curriculum, etc.) the more *Effective* and *Highly Effective* ratings a teacher has, the better students will do. For ideas on how to include student learning in the teacher-evaluation process, see Marshall's book, *Rethinking Teacher Supervision and Evaluation* (Jossey-Bass, 2nd edition, 2013, p. 121).
- 8. The rubrics are open source and may be used and adapted by schools and districts as they see fit.

A. Planning and Preparation for Learning

4 Highly Effective

3 Effective 2 Improvement Necessary

1 Does Not Meet Standards

The teache	Highly Effective	Effective	Necessary	Standards		
a. Knowledge	Is expert in the subject area and up to date on authoritative research on child development and how students learn.	and has a good grasp of child	Is somewhat familiar with the subject and has a few ideas of ways students develop and learn.	Has little familiarity with the subject matter and few ideas on how to teach it and how students learn.		
b. Standards	Has a detailed plan for the year that is tightly aligned with high standards and ensures success on standardized assessments.	Plans the year so students will meet high standards and be ready for standardized assessments.	Has done some thinking about how to cover high standards and test requirements this year	Plans lesson by lesson and has little familiarity with state standards and tests.		
c. Units	Plans almost all units with big ideas, essential questions, knowledge, skill, transfer, and non-cognitive goals covering most Bloom levels.	Plans most units with big ideas, essential questions, knowledge, skill, and noncognitive goals.	Plans lessons with some thought to larger goals and objectives and higher-order thinking skills.	Teaches on an ad hoc basis with little or no consideration for long-range curriculum goals.		
d. Assessments	Prepares diagnostic, on-the- spot, interim, and summative assessments to monitor student learning.	Plans on-the-spot and unit assessments to measure student learning.	Drafts unit tests as instruction proceeds.	Writes final tests shortly before they are given.		
e. Anticipation	Anticipates students' misconceptions and confusions and develops multiple strategies to overcome them.	Anticipates misconceptions that students might have and plans to address them.	Has a hunch about one or two ways that students might become confused with the content.	Proceeds without considering misconceptions that students might have about the material.		
f. Lessons	Designs each lesson with clear, measurable, achievable goals closely aligned with standards and unit outcomes.	Designs lessons focused on measurable, achievable outcomes aligned with unit goals.	Plans lessons with some consideration of long-term goals.	Plans lessons aimed primarily at entertaining students or covering textbook chapters.		
g. Engagement	Luithally all students and en-	Designs lessons that are relevant, motivating, and likely to engage most students.	Plans lessons that will catch some students' interest and perhaps get a discussion going.	Plans lessons with very little likelihood of motivating or involving students.		
h. Materials	multicultural learning			Plans lessons that rely mainly on mediocre and low-quality textbooks, workbooks, or worksheets.		
i. Differentiation	address students! learning	Designs lessons that target several learning needs, styles, and interests		Plans lessons with no differentiation.		
j. Environment	materials, and displays to	Organizes classroom furniture, materials, and displays to	materials to support the lesson, with only a few	Has a conventional furniture arrangement, hard-to-access materials, and few wall displays.		

Overall rating:_

Comments:

B. Classroom Management

1

3 Does Not Meet **Improvement** Highly Effective Effective Standards Necessary The teacher: Is direct, specific, consistent, Comes up with ad hoc rules Clearly communicates and Announces and posts a. and tenacious in and consequences as events consistently enforces high classroom rules and Expectations communicating and enforcing standards for student behavior. unfold during the year. consequences. very high expectations. Shows warmth, caring, Is fair and respectful toward Is sometimes harsh, unfair, Is fair and respectful toward b. respect, and fairness for all and disrespectful with most students and builds students and builds positive Relationships students and builds strong positive relationships with students and/or plays relationships. relationships. favorites. Creates a climate of respect Wins almost all students' Is not respected by students Wins the respect of some c. and buy-in such that disruption respect and discipline and the classroom is students but there are regular of learning is virtually problems are few and far frequently chaotic and Respect disruptions in the classroom. unthinkable. sometimes dangerous. between. Implements a program that Often lectures students on the Publicly berates "bad" Fosters positive interactions d. successfully develops positive need for good behavior, and students, blaming them for among students and teaches Social-emotional interactions and socialmakes an example of "bad" their poor behavior. useful social skills. emotional skills. students. Successfully inculcates class Does not teach routines and is Teaches routines and has Tries to train students in class routines up front so that constantly nagging, e. students maintain them all routines but many of the threatening, and punishing Routines students maintain them routines are not maintained. year. students. throughout the year. Gets virtually all students to be Develops students' self-Is unsuccessful in fostering Tries to get students to be self-disciplined, take f. discipline and teaches them to self-discipline in students; responsible for their actions, responsibility for their actions they are dependent on the Responsibility take responsibility for their and have a strong sense of but many lack self-discipline. teacher to behave. own actions. efficacy. Has a highly effective Has a limited disciplinary Has few discipline skills and Has a repertoire of discipline discipline repertoire and can constantly struggles to get "moves" and can capture and repertoire and some students capture and hold students' Repertoire students' attention. maintain students' attention. are not paying attention. attention any time. Sometimes loses teaching Loses a great deal of Skillfully uses coherence, Maximizes academic learning instructional time because of time due to lack of clarity, momentum, and transitions so h. time through coherence, lesson confusion, interruptions, that almost every minute of interruptions, inefficient momentum, and smooth Efficiency transitions, and off-task ragged transitions, and offclassroom time produces transitions. teacher behavior. task teacher behavior. learning. Tries to prevent discipline Is unsuccessful at spotting and Is alert, poised, dynamic, and Has a confident, dynamic preventing discipline problems but sometimes little self-assured and nips virtually presence and nips most problems, and they frequently things escalate into big all discipline problems in the Prevention discipline problems in the bud escalate. problems. bud. Gives out extrinsic rewards Gets students to buy into a Uses extrinsic rewards in an Uses incentives wisely to (e.g., free time) without using highly effective system of attempt to get students to encourage and reinforce them as a lever to improve incentives linked to intrinsic Incentives student cooperation. cooperate and comply. behavior. rewards.

Comments:

C. Delivery of Instruction

1 Does Not Meet Improvement **Highly Effective** Effective Standards Necessary The teacher: Exudes high expectations, Conveys to students: This is Tells students that the subject urgency, and determination important, you can do it, and Gives up on some students as matter is important and they Expectations that all students will master the I'm not going to give up on hopeless. need to work hard. material. Actively inculcates a "growth" mindset: take risks, learn from Tells students that effective Doesn't counteract students' Communicates a "fixed" b. mistakes, through effective effort, not innate ability, is the misconceptions about innate mindset about ability: some Mindset effort you can and will achieve key. ability. students have it, some don't. at high levels. Shows students exactly what's Gives students a clear sense of expected by posting essential Tells students the main Begins lessons without giving C. purpose by posting the unit's questions, goals, rubrics, and learning objectives of each students a sense of where Goals essential questions and the exemplars; virtually all instruction is headed. lesson's goals. students can articulate them. Hooks virtually all students in Activates students' prior Is only sometimes successful Rarely hooks students' interest d. units and lessons by activating in making the subject knowledge and hooks their or makes connections to their Connections knowledge, experience, interest in each lesson and new interesting and relating it to lives. reading, and vocabulary. vocabulary. things students already know. Presents material clearly and Uses clear explanations, Sometimes uses language and Often presents material in a explicitly, with well-chosen appropriate language, and explanations that are fuzzy, confusing way, using language Clarity examples and vivid, examples to present material. confusing, or inappropriate. that is inappropriate. appropriate language. Uses a wide range of well-Uses a limited range of Orchestrates effective Uses only one or two teaching chosen, effective strategies, classroom strategies, f. strategies, questions, material strategies and types of questions, materials, questions, materials, and Repertoire materials and fails to reach technology, and groupings to technology, and groupings to groupings with mixed foster student learning. most students. accelerate student learning. success. Gets virtually all students Mostly lectures to passive involved in focused activities, Has students actively think Attempts to get students students or has them plod actively learning and problemabout, discuss, and use the actively involved but some Engagement through textbooks and solving, losing themselves in ideas and skills being taught. students are disengaged. worksheets. the work. Successfully reaches virtually Differentiates and scaffolds Attempts to accommodate all students by skillfully Fails to differentiate h. instruction and uses peer and students with learning differentiating and scaffolding instruction for students with Differentiation adult helpers to accommodate deficits, but with mixed and using peer and adult learning deficits. most students' learning needs. success. helpers. Is rigid and inflexible with Deftly adapts lessons and units Is flexible about modifying Sometimes doesn't take lesson plans and rarely takes to exploit teachable moments lessons to take advantage of advantage of teachable Nimbleness advantage of teachable and correct misunderstandings, teachable moments. moments. moments. Consistently has students summarize and internalize Sometimes brings closure to Moves on at the end of each Has students sum up what they j. what they learn and apply it to have learned and apply it in a lessons and asks students to lesson without closure or Closure real-life situations and future different context. think about applications. application to other contexts.

Comments:

opportunities.

D. Monitoring, Assessment, and Follow-Up

Does Not Meet Improvement **Highly Effective Effective** Standards Necessary The teacher: Consistently posts and reviews clear criteria for good work, Posts criteria for proficiency, Tells students some of the Expects students to know (or with rubrics and exemplars of including rubrics and qualities that their finished figure out) what it takes to get Criteria student work at each level of exemplars of student work. work should exhibit. good grades. proficiency. Gives students a well-Diagnoses students' Does a quick K-W-L (Know, constructed diagnostic Begins instruction without b. knowledge and skills up front Want to Know, Learned) assessment up front, and uses diagnosing students' skills and Diagnosis and makes small adjustments exercise before beginning a the information to fine-tune knowledge. based on the data. instruction. Uses a variety of effective Frequently checks for Uses mediocre methods (e.g., methods to check for Uses ineffective methods ("Is understanding and gives thumbs up, thumbs down) to understanding; immediately everyone with me?") to check On-the-Spot students helpful information if check for understanding unscrambles confusion and for understanding. they seem confused. during instruction. clarifies. Has students set ambitious Urges students to look over Allows students to move on Has students set goals, selfd. goals, continuously self-assess their work, see where they without assessing and assess, and know where they Self-Assessment and take responsibility for had trouble, and aim to improving problems in their stand academically at all times improving performance. improve those areas. work. Frequently posts students' work with rubrics and Regularly posts students' work e. Posts some 'A' student work Posts only a few samples of commentary to celebrate to make visible their progress Recognition as an example to others. student work or none at all. progress and motivate and with respect to standards. direct effort. Works with colleagues to Promptly uses data from Is slow getting test results immediately use interim Returns tests to students and f. interim assessments to adjust back to students and moves on assessment data to fine-tune follows up by clarifying a few Interims teaching, re-teach, and follow without analyzing data and teaching, re-teach, and help items that caused problems. following up with students. up with failing students. struggling students. Relentlessly follows up with Takes responsibility for Tells students that if they fail a Offers students who fail tests struggling students with students who are not test, that's it; the class has to some additional time to study personal attention so that move on to cover the Tenacity succeeding and gives them and do re-takes. virtually all reach proficiency. curriculum extra help. Makes sure that students who Often fails to refer students for Sometimes doesn't refer When necessary, refers h. need specialized diagnosis and students promptly for special special services and/or refers students for specialized Support help receive appropriate help, and/or refers students students who do not need diagnosis and extra help. services immediately. who don't need it. them. Works with colleagues to Analyzes data from Records students' grades and analyze and chart data, draw Records students' grades and assessments, draws notes some general patterns Analysis moves on with the curriculum. action conclusions, and conclusions, and shares them for future reference. leverage student growth. appropriately. Works with colleagues to Reflects on the effectiveness At the end of a teaching unit Does not draw lessons for the reflect on what worked and j. of lessons and units and or semester, thinks about what future when teaching is Reflection what didn't and continuously continuously works to improve might have been done better. unsuccessful. improve instruction.

Comments:

E. Family and Community Outreach

1

Does Not Meet Improvement **Highly Effective** Effective Standards Necessary The teacher: Tries to be sensitive to the Shows great sensitivity and Communicates respectfully culture and beliefs of Is often insensitive to the respect for family and a. with parents and is sensitive to students' families but culture and beliefs of students' community culture, values, different families' culture and Respect sometimes shows lack of families. and beliefs. values. sensitivity. Does not communicate to Shows each parent an in-depth | Shows parents a genuine Tells parents that he or she parents knowledge of b. knowledge of their child and a interest and belief in each cares about their children and individual children or concern Belief strong belief that he or she will child's ability to reach wants the best for them. about their future. meet or exceed standards. standards. Gives parents clear, user-Gives parents clear Doesn't inform parents about Sends home a list of friendly learning and behavior expectations for student classroom rules and the learning and behavior Expectations expectations and exemplars of learning and behavior for the expectations. syllabus for the year. proficient work. year. Lets parents know about Makes sure parents hear Promptly informs parents of Seldom informs parents of problems their children are d. positive news about their behavior and learning concerns or positive news having but rarely mentions Communication children first, and immediately problems, and also updates about their children. flags any problems. parents on good news. positive news. Updates parents on the Sends home occasional Frequently involves parents in Rarely if ever communicates suggestions on how parents supporting and enriching the unfolding curriculum and with parents on ways to help Involving curriculum for their children as suggests ways to support can help their children with their children at home. it unfolds. learning at home. schoolwork. Assigns homework but is Assigns highly engaging Assigns appropriate Assigns homework, keeps resigned to the fact that many f. homework, gets close to a homework, holds students track of compliance, but students won't turn it in, and Homework 100% return, and promptly accountable for turning it in, rarely follows up. doesn't follow up. provides helpful feedback. and gives feedback. Does not respond to parent Deals immediately and Responds promptly to parent Is slow to respond to some concerns and makes parents successfully with parent parent concerns and comes concerns and makes parents feel unwelcome in the concerns and makes parents Responsiveness across as unwelcoming. feel welcome in the school. classroom. feel welcome any time. Uses student-led conferences, Gives out report cards and Uses report card conferences Uses conferences and report report cards, and informal h. to tell parents the areas in expects parents to deal with cards to give parents feedback talks to give parents detailed which their children can the areas that need Reporting and helpful feedback on on their children's progress. improve. improvement. children's progress. Tries to contact all parents, Successfully contacts and Makes little or no effort to Reaches out to all parents and but ends up talking mainly to i. works with virtually all contact parents. is tenacious in contacting hard the parents of high-achieving Outreach parents, including those who to-reach parents. students. are hard to reach. Successfully enlists classroom Reaches out to families and Does not reach out for extra volunteers and extra resources Asks parents to volunteer in j. community agencies to bring support from parents or the the classroom and contribute from homes and the in volunteers and additional Resources community. extra resources. community to enrich the resources. curriculum.

Comments:

F. Professional Responsibilities

1

3 **Does Not Meet** Improvement **Highly Effective** Effective Standards Necessary The teacher: Has moderate absences (6-Has many absences (11% or Has very good attendance (95-Has perfect or near-perfect 2 10%). If there are extenuating more). If there are extenuating attendance (98-100%). Attendance circumstances, state below. circumstances, state below. Frequently makes errors in Periodically makes errors in Uses correct grammar, syntax, In professional contexts, grammar, syntax, usage, grammar, syntax, usage usage, and spelling in speaks and writes correctly, and/or spelling in professional and/or spelling in professiona Language succinctly, and eloquently. professional contexts. contexts. contexts. Frequently skips assignments, Occasionally skips Is punctual and reliable with Carries out assignments is late, makes errors in assignments, is late, makes conscientiously and paperwork, duties, and records, and misses paperwork errors in records, and misses Reliability punctually, keeps meticulous assignments; keeps accurate paperwork deadlines. deadlines. records, and is never late. records Occasionally acts and/or Presents as a consummate Frequently acts and/or dresses Demonstrates professional dresses in an unprofessional d. professional and always in an unprofessional manner demeanor and maintains manner and/or violates Professionalism observes appropriate and violates boundaries. appropriate boundaries. boundaries. boundaries. Is frequently unethical, Sometimes uses questionable Is invariably ethical, honest, Is ethical and forthright, uses dishonest, uses poor judgment, judgment, is less than and forthright, uses good judgment, and maintains e. and/or discloses student completely honest, and/or impeccable judgment, and confidentiality with student Judgment information. discloses student information information. respects confidentiality. Is an important member of Shares responsibility for grade-When asked, will serve on a Declines invitations to serve f. teacher teams and committees level and schoolwide activities on committees and attend committee and attend an extra Above-andand frequently volunteers for and takes part in extra extra activities. activity. beyond extra activities. activities. Frequently contributes Is a positive team player and Occasionally suggests an idea Rarely if ever contributes valuable ideas and expertise contributes ideas, expertise, ideas that might help improve aimed at improving the and time to the overall mission Leadership and instills in others a desire to the school. school. improve student results. of the school. Actively seeks out feedback Listens thoughtfully to other Is very defensive about Is somewhat defensive but and suggestions from students viewpoints and responds h. criticism and resistant to does listen to feedback and parents, and colleagues and constructively to suggestions Openness changing classroom practice. suggestions. uses them to improve and criticism. performance. Collaborates with colleagues Meets at least weekly with Meets occasionally with Meets infrequently with colleagues to plan units, share to plan units, share teaching colleagues, and conversations colleagues to share ideas Collaboration ideas, and look at student ideas, and analyze interim lack educational substance. about teaching and students. assessments. work. Actively reaches out for new Seeks out effective teaching Is not open to ideas for Can occasionally be ideas and engages in action ideas from colleagues, j. improving teaching and persuaded to try out new workshops, and other sources research with colleagues to Growth learning. classroom practices. figure out what works best. and implements them well.

Overall rating: _____ Comments:

Evaluation Summary Page

Teacher's name:		- The Color of the	School year:
School:		Subject area: _	an interest in the second
Evaluator:			_ Position:
RATINGS ON INDIVIDU	JAL RUBI	UCS:	
A. Planning and Preparation	n for Learr	ning:	
Highly Effective	Effective	Improvement Necessary	Does Not Meet Standards
B. Classroom Managemen	<u>t:</u>		
Highly Effective	Effective	Improvement Necessary	Does Not Meet Standards
C. Delivery of Instruction:			
Highly Effective	Effective	Improvement Necessary	Does Not Meet Standards
D. Monitoring, Assessmen	t, and Follo	w-Up:	
Highly Effective	Effective	Improvement Necessary	Does Not Meet Standards
E. Family and Community	Outreach:		
Highly Effective	Effective	Improvement Necessary	Does Not Meet Standards
F. Professional Responsibil	ities:		
Highly Effective	Effective	Improvement Necessary	Does Not Meet Standards
OVERALL RATING:			
Highly Effective Eff	ective	Improvement Necessa	ry Does Not Meet Standards
OVERALL COMMENTS D	37 F374 F Y	4 mon	
OVERALL COMMENTS B	YEVALU	ATOR:	
OVERALL COMMENTS B	Y TEACH	ER:	
Evaluator's signature:		Date	:
Teacher's signature:		Date:	2
necessarily denote agreemen			ssed the evaluation; it does not

Spreadsheet of Rubric Scores of 11 Teachers for PD Purposes

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D. Monitoring, Assessment, and Follow-Up

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Richard	A	2			2		2		2	

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