

Standard I Element A

LEVEL 2 PRACTICES

THE TEACHER:

Implements lessons that:

4 ***Align to the district’s plan of instruction.***

It is each teacher’s responsibility to become knowledgeable about the district’s curriculum. This step is a prerequisite to using lesson plans that are connected to the approved curriculum. Instructional objectives and implementation of instruction should always align to state academic standards and district approved curriculum. When developing lesson plans, teachers should reference their district’s scope and sequence and/or units of study or curriculum maps.

Lessons should align to: pacing guides, scope and sequence, instructional models or programs. (APS, June 2018)

5 ***Reflect vertical and horizontal alignment of the grade or subject area.***

- Horizontal Curriculum Alignment: Teachers closely align what is taught, share ideas and ideally develop common formative assessments. It can lead to more communication between grade level teachers, ensure that key concepts are emphasized in every classroom and allow each student the same quality education regardless of teacher. (Perez, June 2015)
<http://www.hotchalkeducationnetwork.com/curriculum-alignment-matters/> Jason Perez “Align Your Curriculum and Save Your Students.” Hot Chalk Education Network
- Vertical Alignment: Organizing a curricula from one grade level or content area to the next. Learning objectives flow from a level of introduction through mastery. Each teacher builds upon the work of the previous teacher.
- Lessons should reflect above and below grade-level expectations according to the district plan of instruction, PLC planning or grade-level planning opportunities. (APS, June 2018)

Planning/Coaching Questions

- How will you identify which standards to teach (e.g., complexity, highly-tested, most challenging for students to master, district plan for instruction) in this lesson or unit?
- How will you create learning objectives appropriate for students and aligned to the unit of study and standards?
- How will the learning objective be communicated to students?
- How did you differentiate for this lesson?
- What collaborative opportunities have you had with school staff to ensure planning and instruction supports the needs of all students and align with the approved curriculum?
- How were formative assessments used to plan instruction?

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