

**CRITERION C-1:** To achieve the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results, all students are involved in challenging learning experiences.  
**CRITERION C-2:** All teachers utilize a variety of strategies and resources, including technology and experiences beyond the textbook and the classroom, that actively engage students, emphasize higher order thinking skills, and help them succeed at high levels.

**STAGES**

4	3	2	1
<p>A variety of information sources including locally developed standards, state curriculum frameworks, and other national references are utilized on a regular basis as resources to define curricular content, instructional activities, and the establishment of a community of learners within the classroom. Innovative methods that are supported by research and professional development activities are frequently used in the classroom and school. The focus is to help all students meet or exceed academic standards and achieve the expected schoolwide learning results.</p> <p>Instructional approaches are used that require active involvement of the learner and help students develop an array of techniques to organize, access, and apply knowledge. Inquiry is the norm at all levels and in all subjects. Instructional approaches help students connect to existing knowledge, construct meaning, elaborate beyond content, and monitor their own learning.</p> <p>Technology offers a variety of instructional support. Students use technology to learn through on-line courses, complete classroom assignments, and expand skills and knowledge learned in the regular classroom.</p> <p>The use of the library is an integral part of learning that is maximized by teachers and students. Extensive and up-to-date library services and resources are available and are integrated and articulated with the curriculum/instruction, academic standards and expected schoolwide learning results.</p> <p><i>Continued on next page</i></p>	<p>Academic standards, expected schoolwide learning results and state curriculum frameworks are utilized to determine curricular content and instructional strategies. Innovative methods are used frequently in the classroom and school.</p> <p>Instructional strategies are used that engage the active involvement of the learner. Students are encouraged to develop techniques to organize, access, and apply knowledge. Technology is available to help students improve their skills, apply knowledge and work on projects.</p> <p>Some teachers function as coaches and facilitators of learning as well as content area experts. Courses are redesigned and modified on an ongoing basis to ensure that the instructional program is challenging, satisfying, and rigorous.</p> <p>In the more rigorous classes, students experience approaches that involve inquiry, formulating and solving problems, teamwork, reflecting on and communicating about their work, and revising work in progress.</p> <p>Students are encouraged and given opportunities to apply their knowledge in classes and in situations outside of school.</p>	<p>Teachers present repetitive course work year after year, changing approaches, activities, and assignments only when they are given ideas or directives through staff development programs, workshop presentations, or textbook instructional guides. They refer to textbooks and course outlines to prepare and sequence class sessions, reinforce students' learning, and serve as a basis for judging students' effort and achievement. The alignment of learning experiences with the academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results is limited. The primary role of teachers is to serve as content area experts, insuring that students benefit from their knowledge and expertise.</p> <p>Innovative methods are evidenced in some classrooms throughout the school. Instructional strategies are characterized primarily by whole class instruction, teacher-directed instruction, and lectures. Student-centered instructional approaches are utilized from time to time and planned and directed by the teacher. Students' work is primarily done on an individual basis, assignments tend to be of short duration and focused upon the completion of discreet tasks. Opportunities for students to revise and improve upon work in progress are limited.</p> <p>Technology is used primarily as a tool to assist teachers in the management of the instructional program. Technology is made available to students in specific contexts such as business courses or technology-related courses.</p>	<p>Course outlines, textbooks, and other instructional materials serve as the basis for the curricular program and instructional methods used in the classroom. Methods used to deliver the instructional program are consistent from year to year varying only when the curricular content is revised.</p> <p>The primary role of teachers is to serve as content area expert. Instructional strategies emphasize the acquisition of knowledge by students. The teacher directs the organization of, access to, and application of knowledge by students. Students are expected to demonstrate that they have learned the content that has been covered.</p> <p>Lectures and whole class presentations are the primary mode for the delivery of the instructional program. Students' work is done on an individual basis, assignments tend to be of short duration and focused upon the completion of tasks. Opportunities for students to revise and improve upon work in progress are limited.</p> <p>Technology is used primarily by teachers as a record-keeping, data collection tool. Student access to technology is limited to certain courses such as business and technology-related courses.</p>

**CRITERION C1 and C-2 continued**

**STAGES**

4	3	2	1
<p>Teachers often function as coaches and facilitators of learning as well as content area experts. Teachers redesign and modify courses on an ongoing basis to ensure that the instructional program is challenging, satisfying, rigorous, and aligned with academic standards and the expected schoolwide learning results.</p> <p>All students apply their knowledge across disciplines and in courses, programs and activities that integrate academic and career-technical content.</p>			