

Attributes of the Characteristics of Effective Instruction

Student Centered Classrooms:

- *Educators support all students in making connections to construct new learning in order to make decisions and solve problems.*
- *The educator facilitates opportunities for students to be metacognitive.*
- *Educators and students are partners in learning.*
- *Educators facilitate time for students to learn collaboratively.*
- *Educators use meaningful and authentic assessment in real world context.*

Teaching for Understanding:

- *Instruction facilitates the construction of deep conceptual and procedural knowledge.*
- *Instruction facilitates the development of representations and conceptual models.*
- *Instruction inducts students into the discipline.*
- *Instruction facilitates the application of new learnings and understandings in new and novel situations (transfer).*

Assessment for Learning:

- *Educators utilize K-12 learning progressions along which students are expected to progress in a domain.*
- *Student learning goals are clear, focused on the intended learning, and communicated so all students understand the criteria for success.*
- *Instructional modifications for students are planned from carefully elicited evidence of student learning.*
- *Descriptive feedback identifies for students the specific knowledge and skills needed to reach learning goal(s).*
- *Self and peer assessment is planned and structured by educator and students in order to develop life-long learning skills.*
- *A collaborative classroom climate is conducive to assessment for learning.*

Rigorous and Relevant Curriculum:

- *Higher order thinking (HOT) is performed by students during instruction.*
- *Deep understanding and mastery of critical disciplinary concepts and skills are demonstrated.*
- *Concepts and skills are applied to situations, issues, and problems in the world beyond school.*

Teaching for Learner Differences:

- *Instruction is focused on “big ideas”—the essential concepts and skills within the content.*
- *Instruction is designed and delivered to match students’ needs based on assessment data of students’ prior knowledge, readiness, individual interests and learning preference.*
- *Teacher provides flexibility within content, instruction and product to allow for variances in students’ acquisition and demonstration of learning.*
- *Teachers provide clear instruction about how to learn, making the various strategies and skills of the learning process conspicuous to all students.*
- *Instruction includes opportunities for students to practice and review their learning and receive feedback.*
- *The teacher regularly monitors each student’s progress related to the acquisition of the essential concepts and skills and adjusts instruction.*