

Educator Check-In on Culture

(How Am I Doing?)

Directions: Review the list below. Place a check by those items you practice on a consistent basis. Feel free to discuss items with your colleagues to expand your practice.

1. ___ I know the cultural background of each of my students and use this knowledge as a resource for instructional activities.
2. ___ I know the culture of my classroom environment and how it affects all of my students.
3. ___ I design lessons that require students to identify and describe another point of view, different factors, consequences, objectives, or priorities.
4. ___ I integrate literature and resources from my students' cultures into my lessons.
5. ___ I know the English language level of each of my students, using language assessments such as Bilingual Syntax Measure, Woodcock-Munoz, or other diagnostic tools.
6. ___ I provide instruction that helps to increase the awareness and valuing of differences through the study of historical, current, community, family, personal events, and literature.
7. ___ I consistently begin my lessons with what students already know from home, community, and school.
8. ___ I design my instructional activities in ways that are meaningful to students in terms of their local community norms and knowledge.
9. ___ I incorporate local norms and perspectives into my classroom instruction on a daily basis by talking to students, parents, and community members and reading relevant documents.
10. ___ I collaborate with students to design activities that build on community resources and knowledge.
11. ___ I provide opportunities for parents to participate in classroom instructional activities.
12. ___ I vary activities to address students' learning styles. (e.g., multiple intelligences, differentiated instruction)
13. ___ I understand the differences between school academic language and my students' social language, and I use techniques to bridge between the two.

PRIORITIES FOR MY OWN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Based on this educator check-in, identify three priorities for your own professional development.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____