

Teacher Quality Standard I

Teachers demonstrate mastery of and pedagogical expertise in the content they teach.

The elementary teacher is an expert in literacy and mathematics and is knowledgeable in all other content that he or she teaches (e.g., science, social studies, arts, physical education, or world languages). The secondary teacher has knowledge of literacy and mathematics and is an expert in his or her content endorsement area(s).

Element B

Teachers develop and implement lessons that connect to a variety of content areas/disciplines and emphasize literacy and mathematical practices.

What does this element look like in virtual or hybrid teaching and learning environments?

The teacher can:

- Organize content so that it is personally meaningful, relevant, and connected to students' learning in a variety of areas/disciplines while emphasizing literacy and math.
- Activate student connections to content and past learning by modeling his/her own connection to learning in a narrative think-aloud and asking the student to do the same.
- Include questions that require students to make connections between the content and current socio-political ideas (within the community and globally), such as through discussion boards and chat.
- Insert meaningful and relevant key questions and wonderings about previous knowledge and learning at various places in the flow of the lesson.
- Generate interest in the upcoming lesson topic (e.g., survey students prior to the lesson about what they already know about the subject, give a pre-assessment, send link to a video to spark questions).

Considerations for observing this element in virtual or hybrid teaching and learning environments:

The evaluator/observer might/will:

- Observe the incorporation of high interest and/or culturally relevant activities and tasks with the lessons.
- Observe the educator providing relevant hooks when beginning a new concept (e.g., relevant video clip(s) to spark student interest and curiosity, having students respond to a question with a poll related to the lesson's objective, having students make a personal connection to the content) and throughout the lesson.
- Hear student voice and examples of work provided by students in responding to questions, reflections, texts or problems.

