POLICY 2.9 INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES

Instructional practice is defined as the strategies and activities used by the classroom teacher to engage students in the learning process.

Instructional Principles

In order to provide an environment where all students perform to their potential and are prepared for their future, Tygart Creek Elementary supports the following instructional principles:

- Teaching and learning are collaborative processes. Teachers and students shall work together to ensure high quality learning experiences occur each day in the classroom.
- Each teacher shall work with colleagues to develop, implement, and monitor a guaranteed, viable curriculum in which all students have access.
- Teachers shall use"best practices" to ensure that students learn the Kentucky Core Academic Standards (KCAS) or the current state adopted curriculum document.
- Teachers shall use assessment data to guide and modify instruction as well as evaluate student progress towards mastery of standards.

Instructional Guidelines

Over the course of a unit of study, teachers shall:

- Use KCAS or the current state adopted curriculum document to plan, deliver, and assess content.
- Use student assessment data to determine appropriate instructional strategies/modifications.
- Use clear, student-friendly learning targets each day that are based on the KCAS
- Differentiate instruction based on student need
- Use activities that require all students to use higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills
- Incorporate student experiences, interests and real-life situations into instruction

- Select and utilize a variety of technology that support student learning
- Maximize the use of available instructional time each day by always being engaged with students
- Adhere to the instructional practices document for TCE approved by SBDM

Over the course of a unit of study, students shall:

- Receive appropriate and meaningful feedback
- Be provided opportunities to work with other students in pairs, small groups, or teams
- Be provided opportunities to participate in hands-on activities
- Be provided opportunities to demonstrate a variety of communication skills
- Use appropriate technology
- Read books or other materials that are aligned to their Lexile range
- Utilize graphic organizers
- Use scoring guides/rubrics
- Use a variety of resources other than textbooks or worksheets

Over the course of a unit of study, the principal shall support the use of these instructional principles by:

- Monitoring weekly learning plans for the use of effective instructional practices
- Provide feedback through informal and formative observations
- Recommending and assisting teachers in locating effective professional development that addresses instructional “Best Practices”.
- Identifying teachers who are in need of assistance and providing resources to enhance the teacher’s ability to implement the above instructional principles.

Protection of Instructional Time

The TCE master schedule will enhance student learning and maximize required instructional time. To ensure every student has critical instructional time the administrative team shall:

- Keep all interruptions from the school office and TCE staff to a minimum

- Plan school wide assemblies and grade level programs that are instructional based and relevant to standards and goal setting
- Utilize a school wide master schedule that enhances student learning

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