



## Pre-Conference Questions

The questions provided are intended to guide thinking and conversation; every question may not be answered or relevant for every observation. It is preferable that all conferences take place in the teacher's classroom for ease of access to data.

### Focus of Learning

- What is the focus for the lesson?
- What content will students know/understand?
- What skills will they demonstrate?
- What standards are addressed in the planned instruction?
- Why is the learning important?

### Assessment Data

- What assessment data was examined to inform this lesson planning?
- What does pre-assessment data indicate about student learning needs?

### Prior Content Knowledge/Sequence/Connections

- What prior knowledge do students need?
- What are the connections to previous and future learning?
- How does this lesson connect to students' real-life experiences and/or possible career?
- How does it connect to other disciplines?

### Knowledge of Students

- What can you tell me about the student population in the class I will be observing?
- How is this lesson a developmentally appropriate learning activity?

### Lesson Delivery

- How will the goals for learning be communicated to students?
- What instructional strategies and methods will be used to engage students and promote independent learning and problem solving?
- What strategies will be used to make sure all students achieve lesson goals?
- How will content-specific concepts and skills be taught?

### Differentiation

- How will the instructional strategies address all students' learning needs?
- How will the lesson engage and challenge students of all levels?
- How will developmental gaps be addressed?

**Resources**

- What resources/materials will be used in instruction?
- How will technology be integrated into lesson delivery?

**Classroom Environment**

- How will the environment support all students?
- How will different grouping strategies be used?
- How will safety in the classroom be ensured?
- How will respect for all be modeled and taught?

**Assessment of Student Learning**

- How will you check for understanding during the lesson?
- What specific products or demonstrations will assess student learning/achievement of goals for instruction?
- How will you ensure that students understand how they are doing and support students' self-assessment?
- How will you use assessment data to inform your next step?

**Professional Responsibility: Collaboration and Communication**

- How do you cooperate with colleagues?
- How do you work with others when there is a problem?
- What is your communication style with students? With families? With colleagues?
- In what way do you seek the perspectives of others? Give an example.

**Professional Responsibility: Professional Growth**

- How do you apply knowledge gained from other experiences into your teaching?
- Discuss ways you reflect and analyze your teaching?
- What are some proactive ways you further your own professional growth?