## Arkansas Teacher Excellence & Support System (TESS) Law & Process for Teachers 2016



Prepared by: Office of Educator Effectiveness Arkansas Department of Education Little Rock AR



Develop a working knowledge of the Arkansas Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS)

- Become familiar with the responsibilities of a TESS teacher
- Identify personal nextsteps for being TESS-ready

# Today's Learning **Outcomes**

EACHER EXCELLENCE AND SUPPORT SYSTEM

Today's group norms. . .

1. Be respectful of time and of others.

2. Be responsible for your learning and participation.

3. Be committed to success.

# TESS is. . .

- A state-wide system for documentation of instructional implementation
- Required as part of the state's ESEA Flexibility Waiver
- A process of events according to an educator's experience level
- Evidence-centered activities planned to provide evaluation, feedback and support for instructional quality assurance and teacher growth leading to increased student learning



# TESS is. . .

A link between documentation of practice with curricular standards, professional development activities, targeted support for improvement, and human capital decisions
 Based on Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching
 Documented in BloomBoard, the online platform designed to collect and manage educator evaluation data



## **TESS Objectives**

Arkansas Code  $\S$  6 -17-2802

- Provide a transparent and consistent teacher evaluation system that ensures effective teaching and promotes professional learning
- Provide *feedback and a support system supporting teachers' improvement* in professional knowledge and skills, as well as improving student learning
- Provide a basis for making teacher employment decisions
- Provide links between *evaluation* procedures and *curricular* standards, professional development, targeted instructional support
- Inform policymakers on benefits of a consistent evaluation and support system in regard to improving student achievement
- Increase the awareness of parents and guardians of students concerning the effectiveness of teachers

## TESS Composite Data: Data: Arkansas School Performance Reports





**TESS** Legal Requirements Quick Reference

www.Arkansased.gov

6.15



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#### Intensive Support Track and Arkansas Teacher Fair Dismissal

Required by Statute or Rules	District Options	Teacher Fair Dismissal Act ACA § 6-17-1501 et seq.
<ul> <li>Teacher is Rated "Unsatisfactory" in any Domain</li> <li>Evaluator Provides Written Notice         <ul> <li>Placement</li> <li>Time Period</li> <li>Notify Superintendent</li> </ul> </li> <li>Develop Intensive Growth Plan         <ul> <li>Clear Goals and Tasks</li> <li>Related to Intensive Growth Plan</li> <li>Evidence Based Research</li> <li>If Goals are related to Student Growth, use Formative Assessment</li> <li>Ensure Necessary Support</li> </ul> </li> <li>Documentation         <ul> <li>Goals &amp; Tasks Completed Written Notice Issued Removal From Intensive Support</li> <li>Goals &amp; Tasks Not Completed Time-line Extended Notify</li> </ul> </li> <li>Superintendent Provide documentation         <ul> <li>Superintendent</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Teacher has "Basic" or "Unsatisfactory" rating in a majority of components in any one (1) domain Up to Two (2) Consecutive Semesters Use IGP posted on ADE website or the BloomBoard PGP Process Number of Goals and Tasks Types of Assessment Types of Assessment Types of Support Two Additional Consecutive Semesters may be added if substantial progress is noted	<ul> <li>Evaluation required ACA § 6-17-1504(a)</li> <li>Notice (aligned with ISS Plan) ACA § 6-17-1504(b)(1)</li> <li>Documentation of : "the efforts that have been undertaken to assist the teacher to correct whatever appears to be the cause for potential termination or nonrenewal" ACA § 6-17-1504(b)(2)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Superintendent Recommendation         <ul> <li>Recommendation for Non-renewal of                  Contract Pursuant to the Arkansas Teacher                  Fair Dismissal Act Code [ Ann. 6-17-1501                  et seq.]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Notice (aligned with ISS Plan) ACA § 6-17-1506(b)(2)</li> </ul>

ADE 04.16.15

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#### www.Arkansased.gov



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Each employed teacher shall be evaluated in writing A teacher shall participate in TESS

- Participation includes, but isn't limited to:
  - Classroom Observations
  - Pre-Observation Conferences
  - Post Observation Conferences
- Collaborate in good faith on the teacher's professional growth plan

## TESS Teacher Requirements





Charlotte Danielson is an educational consultant who has extensive work experience in a wide range of positions. She created a framework to help teachers improve instructional practice.

## Charlotte Danielson:

"An effective system of teacher evaluation accomplishes two things: it ensures quality teaching and it promotes professional learning. The quality of teaching is the single most important determinant of student learning. A school district's system of teacher evaluation is the method by which it ensures that teaching is of high quality. Therefore, the system developed for teacher evaluation must have certain characteristics; it must be rigorous, valid, reliable and defensible, and must be grounded in a research-based and accepted definition of good teaching."

# Can be defined Can be observed Create evidence





TESS Defining Danielson

# Framework for Teaching Design

#### Teacher Practices -

That is, what teachers do and how well they do the work of teaching. <u>Results</u> – That is, what teachers accomplish; typically, how well their students learn.



Is <u>consistent</u>; we know best practice and it doesn't change.

Is based in <u>pedagogical</u> <u>practice</u> <u>unique</u> to every teacher, every class,

every school.

✤Is <u>simple</u>, but <u>masterful</u>.

Is based on the <u>2007</u> edition of The Framework for Teaching.

ROFESSIONAL mancing A FRAMEWORK FOR TEACHING RACTICE CHARLOTTE DANIELSON 1 Edition

## TESS

Is for: **Licensed Teachers** And Specialists: **Gifted Coordinators Instructional Specialists Library Media Specialists School Counselors School Psychologists** Speech Language **Pathologists** 



#### Notes:

'Teacher' is also a non-licensed classroom teacher working at public charter schools.

Pre-school teachers not required, but districts/co-op may include them. 19

# Framework for Teaching Design



Component – a statement of effective teaching practice(s)



Element(s) – essential part of the component





### **Domain 1: Planning & Preparation**

- 1a: Demonstrating Knowledge of Content and Pedagogy
- **1b: Demonstrating Knowledge of Students**
- **1c: Setting Instructional Outcomes**
- **1d:** Demonstrating Knowledge of Resources
- **1e: Designing Coherent Instruction**

#### **1f: Designing Student Assessments**

#### **Domain 2: Environment**

- 2a: Creating an Environment of Respect and Rapport
- **2b: Establishing a Culture for Learning**
- **2c: Managing Classroom Procedures**
- 2d: Managing Student Behavior
- **2e: Organizing Physical Space**

## **Domain 3: Instruction**

- **3a: Communicating with Students**
- **3b: Using Questioning and Discussion Techniques**
- **3c: Engaging Students in Learning**
- **3d: Using Assessment in Instruction**
- **3e: Demonstrating Flexibility and Responsiveness**

## **Domain 4:Professional Responsibilities**

- 4a: Reflecting on Teaching
- 4b: Maintaining Accurate Records
- **4c: Communicating with Families**
- 4d: Participating in a Professional Community
- 4e: Growing and Developing Professionally

## 4f: Showing Professionalism

T

- Appropriate use of technology
- Attention to individual student needs
- Cultural competence
- Developmental appropriateness
- Equity
- High expectations
- Student acceptance of responsibility

# **Levels of Performance**

Unsatisfactory	Basic	Proficient	Distinguished
Not No Not clear Unaware Does not respond Poor Not congruent	Some Attempts to Limited Moderate Uneven Inconsistent Rudimentary	Consistent High quality Timely Accurate Appropriate Clear Effective High expectations	All students Highly effective Entirely appropriate Adapted for individual students Fully aligned Extensive

## The TESS Rubric

#### **Best Practice**

**FORMULA** 

Level Descriptors

	Unsatisfactory	Basic	Proficient	Distinguished
3b: Using questioning / prompts and discussion	The teacher's questions are low-level or inappropriate, eliciting limited student participation and recitation rather than discussion.	Some of the teacher's questions elicit a thoughtful response, but most are low- level, posed in rapid succession. The teacher's attempts to engage all students in the discussion are only partially successful.	Most of the teacher's questions elicit a thoughtful response, and the teacher allows sufficient time for students to answer. All students participate in the discussion, with the teacher stepping aside when appropriate.	Questions reflect high expectations and are culturally and developmentally appropriate. Students formulate many of the high-level questions and ensure that all voices are heard.



TESS does not conflict with, nor replace the Arkansas Teacher Fair Dismissal Act (ATFDA).

directors, provide for one (1) additional year of probationary status. Arkansas Code: § 6-17-1502

### **TRACK 1: Novice/Probationary Teachers**

All Track 1 Teachers have a summative evaluation over all framework components. Teachers may be in Track 1 for one to three years depending on teaching experience.

 NOVICE TEACHER
 ✓ Less than 3 years teaching experience.

✓ In Track 1 for 3 years



PROBATIONARY TEACHER

- Teachers new to a school district
- Districts have policies for probationary status

#### Note:

Summative Evaluation on all components. Formative observations can focus on targeted growth areas.

#### **TRACK 2: Interim Appraisal Teachers**

Track 2 Teachers are in a 4-year cycle, which means one of four years is a Summative Evaluation year. The other three years are focused on the teacher's Professional Growth Plan Goals.

2A: SUMMATIVE EVALUATION YEAR

- ✓ Informal observations may be conducted
- ✓ Formal evaluation on all components



2B1, 2B2, & 2B3: INTERIM APPRAISAL YEARS

- Evaluated on PGP
   Components
- Teachers move from 2B3 to 2B2, from 2B2 to 2B1, from 2B1 to 2A

#### Note:

Teachers may be moved to a different track at any time by administrative decision in consideration of observations and PGP work.

#### **TRACK 3: Intensive Support Teachers**

Track 3 teachers need intense, targeted assistance to correct areas of concern from observations or teacher performance.

- ✓ Placement is evidence-based.
- Teachers may have received 'Basic' and 'Unsatisfactory' in the majority of components of a domain.



- Teachers may have received 'Unsatisfactory' in any one domain.
- ✓ Placement may occur at any time from Track 1 or Track 2A.

#### Note:

TESS does not conflict, nor is it meant to replace the Arkansas Teacher Fair Dismissal Act.





# TESS PROFESSIONAL GROWTH PLAN



P 

#### A major component of TESS

Identifies professional learning outcomes to advance the teacher's professional skills

Clearly links professional development activities and the teacher's individual professional learning needs identified through the evaluation process

Plan requires at least ½ of the professional development hours required by law or rule are related to one or more of the following:

- Teacher's content area
- Instructional strategies applicable to the teacher's content area
- The teacher's identified needs
- DemographicProgram
- Achievement
- Perceptual

DATA TO DRIVE AND SHOW IMPROVEMENT





The Rubric is always available, allowing *self-assessment* on elements and components. We can work on improving ratings and record the improvement in saved *'Snapshots'* of ratings.

ADE Training	2014-2015 Educator Evaluation System	н	elp   learner
Home Activities	End of Year Evaluation	LEA	RNING RECO
	Goal Planning		
	Professional Goals		
	Areas Of Strength: Areas	For Growth:	
	knowing content about rathe	ing and maintaining zb a culture of learning and zc ing my classroom procedures   must learn more creating a disciplined classroom environment r than a chaotic environment.   need to learn rules and how to use them in	
	Your Current Goals		
	Goal #1CGoal #2PGP: Have an appropriate2bPGP: Work wothers to	b	
	1. I.D. Areas of Areas for Gro	of Strength and wth.	

Home Act	tivities	End of Year Evaluation			LEARNING RECOMMENDATIONS
		Welcome, Becky! Teacher at ADE Training Visit My E-Portfolio			
		BloomList - To Do Items		Current Activities	
		Your BloomList is a place to keep track of your to do list.			
		Create My Own BloomLiet item		You don't have any current activities. You will see information here about timin and next steps once your coach schedul a new observation.	
		See at BicomList Itema		See Al Activities	
		End of Year Evaluation			
		Once everything is ready, this is where you'll see infor	mation about your end of year evalu	ation.	
				View archive	ed
		PGP: Have an appropriate culture of learning in classroom with disciplined not chastic environment.	miblem-salving using data		
		C Data services provide	ed by BoomBoard © 2015   Privacy	Policy   Terms of Use	

2. PGP GOALS are written on Homepage sticky notes.



3. Align components and follow prompts to outline the plan.



4. Make a BloomList of Training and Activities to complete the plan.

## TESS OBSERVATIONS





1. Open scheduled meeting on Homepage.



2. Complete required activities for the Observation event.



#### What does an observation look and feel like?

## TESS EVIDENCE AND ARTIFACTS



### Observation notes Meeting notes

Artifacts



+ Periods 4 ana 5. Teansmatin" ( burie buck) Math Intervention: MS. Moon

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### TESS: **EVIDENCE CENTERED** DESIGN



### **Classroom Observation Evidence**

- 1. Verbatim scripting of *teacher or student comments*.
- 2. An observed aspect of the *classroom environment*.
- 3. Non-evaluative statements of observed *teacher or student behavior*.
- 4. *Numeric information* about time, student participation, resource use, etc.



Informal Observation between <u>Teacher B</u> and Becky Gibson	Steps - Collected Evidence Ratings Summary 🐇	<b>;</b> -
Informal Observation	📕 🖡 🎝 Print Evidence is not shared as you tag it. Share evide	nce
◆ → 《 陶 論 微 論 B I U 注 듣 등 德 為· A· Normal	Autosaved a few seconds ago 🖉 💿	
	Arkansas: Educator Rubric	
The teacher greets the students at the door.	Domain 1 - Planning and Preparation	
T: Hi John. good to see you today. How's your Grandmother doing?	1a - Demonstrating Knowledge of Content and Pedagogy	
S: She's better, but I couldn't get my homework done yesterday. T: Come in to class. We will talk about what needs to be done.	📃 1b - Demonstrating Knowledge of Students	
1. GOILE II TO SHOUL, THE HIII KING GOOLE HINK HEEGO TO BE GOILE.	1c - Setting Instructional Outcomes	
	1d - Demonstrating Knowledge of Resources	
	📃 1e - Designing Coherent Instruction	
	11- Designing Student Assessments	
	Domain 2 - The Classroom Environment	
	2a - Creating an Environment of Respect and Rapport	
	2b - Establishing a Culture for Learning	
	ac - Managing Classroom Procedures	
	📃 2d - Managing Student Behavior	
	📃 2e - Organizing Physical Space	
	Domain 3 - Instruction	
	3a - Communicating with Students	•
	4	*
	Add a comment	
our notes will make them visible to Teacher B.	Save Cancel	

Observation evidence is 'tagged' to rubric components. Evidence is loaded in the record of ratings.

ADE Training	2014-2015 Educator Evaluation	System	Help   learner: Becky Gibson +
Home Activities	End of Year Evaluation		LEARNING RECOMMENDATIONS
	Becky Gibson's I	Document Upload	
	Aggregated Evide Ratings Artifacts	Click on Upload and select document to upload Upload BloomBoard_Screenshots.docx 99% uploaded. Close Close	eo or Upload a document
	▲ Download document	2d: Discipline plan s record for post Uploaded by Becky Gibson Nov 7 Delete	

Artifacts are 'uploaded' and 'tagged' to components. Observer and Learner may upload and tag.

## TESS TEACHER PERFORMANCE RATINGS



### How Ratings are Determined

Performance Rating: Observations; Artifacts/Evidence; Professional Growth Plan

Student Growth

Overall Summative Rating

### **Considerations for Growth Measures**

#### • Rigorous measures:

Exhibit high expectations for student progress toward college- and career-readiness

#### • Between two points in time:

- Show learning growth between two points in time

#### • Comparable across classrooms and grade levels:

- The measures used to show students' growth for a particular subject are the same or very similar across classrooms within a district or state.
- The measures used in non-tested subjects and grades are as rigorous as those in tested subjects and grades. In other words, measures used to document student learning growth in art, music, and social studies must be as rigorous as those for student learning growth in reading/language arts and mathematics.

## TESS SUCCESS



The Arkansas Department of Education will post a video on TESS best practices for viewing on Arkansased.gov on June 1, 2016.



Of all the approaches available to educators to promote teacher learning, the most powerful is that of professional conversation.



#### Talk About Teaching!

Charlotte Danielson 2009, Corwin Press

# **BEST PRACTICE**

 ✓ Collaborate in good faith
 ✓ Be aware of school/district evaluation policies - many decisions are made locally
 ✓ Learn the Rubric Content
 ✓ Learn from your mentor & others



## **Best Practice**

- $\checkmark$  Allow the language of the rubric to become the language of your communication. . ✓ Use it for your Goals ✓ Use it with your Artifacts and tagging
  - Using the rubric works -

**1.** What have you learned today? 2. What would you like to know?



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TEACHER EXCELLENCE AND SUPPORT SYSTEM