

Power Standards, Common Assessments, and the Course Organizer

Presented by
Patricia Ward, M.Ed.
SIM Professional Developer

Learning Strategies Neatest Things: 11:15-12:15
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What are Power Standards?

“Those standards that, once mastered, give a student the ability to use reasoning and thinking skills to learn and understand other curriculum objectives.”

---Dr. Reeves

Rationale for Power Standards

- Too many standards, not enough year!



Guiding Questions:

1. What *essential understandings and skills do our students need?
2. Which standards can be clustered or incorporated into others?

*Essential: what knowledge and skills must I impart to my students **this** year so that they will enter **next** year's class with confidence and a readiness for success?

Power Standards Criteria

1. **Endurance** -will be of value beyond a single test date
2. **Leverage** -be of value in multiple disciplines
3. **Readiness for the next level of learning** - essential knowledge and skills that are necessary for success in the next grade or level of instruction

Guiding Question:

- What do your students need for success
 - In school
 - In life and
 - On the State Test



Identification Criteria

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Endurance | 1. School |
| 2. Leverage | 2. Life |
| 3. Readiness for next level of learning | 3. State Test |

1. What essential understandings and skills do our students need?
2. Which standards can be clustered or incorporated into others?

Step 1

- Read through the entire grade level GLCE's, highlight:
 - Green: I cover these very well
 - Yellow: I talk about these in class
 - Pink: I have never covered these
- Take the next 5 minutes and check mark the ones you consider to be absolutely essential for student success in that grade.

Step 2

- Share your list with your colleagues and note where you
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Not sure
- Goal: Reach an initial consensus of what Power Standards should be in that subject/grade.

Step 3

- Look at State Test and/or other norm referenced testing for specific weaknesses that may need emphasizing in your particular school.
- Revise your selections with this new information.
- Follow Steps 1 - 3 with the grade above and below your grade (vertical alignment)

Step 4

- Post three grade level charts on the wall (K-2; 3-5; 6-8; 9-12)
- Look for the vertical flow within and between the grade spans
- Look for and identify any gaps, overlaps, and omissions



Sequencing the Power Standards for Instruction and Assessment

- Think about your reporting periods (quarters or trimesters), decide which standards should be taught in which individual reporting periods —e.g. Scope and Sequence

or

- Introduce the Course and Unit Organizers

SMARTER Planning

- Shape the Critical Questions
- Map the Critical Content
- Analyze for Learning Difficulties
- Reach Enhancement Decisions
- Teach Strategically
- Evaluate Mastery
- Revisit Outcomes

Assessment (of & for)

- | | |
|---|---|
| Summative (of) | Formative (for) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Norm referenced, Standardized- A snapshot in time- Formal | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Often Teacher created- A moving picture- Formal or informal |
| Essential question: | Essential Question: |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- What have students already learned? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- How can we help students learn more? |

Accurate Assessment

Key 1: Clear Purpose

- What's the purpose?
- Who will use the results?
- What will they use the results to do?

Key 2: Clear Targets

- What are the learning targets?
- Are they clear?
- Are they appropriate?

Key 3: Sound Design

- What method? Quality questions? Sampled how? Avoid bias how?

Effectively Used

Key 4: Effective Communication

- How to manage the information?
- How to report? To Whom?

Key 5: Student Involvement

- Students are users, too.
- Students can track progress and communicate, too.
- Students need to understand targets, too.
- Students can assess, too.

The Course Organizer Difference

- Course Paraphrase; Course Theme
- Critical Concepts
- Course Map
- Community Principles
- Learning Rituals
- Performance Options
- Course Standards

Thank You!

Patricia Ward, M.Ed.
Educational Consultant
1ward2@charter.net