Planning and Resolution of Issues Regarding Instructional Practices
KRS 160.345(2)(i)(6)

Purpose:

The Planning and Resolution of Issues Regarding Instructional Practices Policy of Kentucky Middle School ensures that all instructional practices align with the Kentucky Middle School's curriculum and establishes an environment where all students achieve to their potential and are prepared for future learning.

Procedures:

Instructional practices shall be defined as the strategies, techniques, and activities used by the classroom teacher to engage students in the learning process.

In preparing lessons, each teacher shall:

- Use varied student-centered instruction;

- Address various learning styles and multiple intelligences;

- Use activities where all students use higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills;

- Make active use of interdisciplinary connections;

- Adjust instruction to respond to the needs of students;

- Provide for student-use of technology for appropriate and varied learning activities and to expand the classroom into the community and beyond;

- Use instructional resources that reflect diversity; and

- Assign homework that extends student learning based on the analysis of classroom data and formative assessments.

Snapshot of Class Period: An ideal class period provides quality instruction and student engagement from bell-to-bell.

- Flashback or bell ringer activity
- Review day's objective/essential question/agenda
- Best practice strategies include guided practice or direct instruction which may include, but are not limited to the following:
  - Individual Assignments
  - Cooperative Learning
  - Research Projects
  - Reading and Summarizing
  - Graphic Organizers
  - Manipulatives
  - Peer Tutoring
  - Speakers
  - Technology
  - Oral Presentations

- Lesson Closure: What did you learn today and why?/Real-world Connections/Exit Slips
- Discussion of Homework (if applicable)/Preparation for Assessment (if applicable)
- Prepare for the Next Day

Homework: Homework is to be used to extend the student's opportunity to learn and is to be completed outside the regular school day and intended to provide added enrichment to practice skills, increase knowledge and explore topics using various learning modes and technologies. Homework assignments will include not only written work, but also cultural and creative activities and projects. Homework is not to be used as a punishment for behavior.

All classroom and enrichment teachers will…

- Engage in age-appropriate home-based activities that directly correlate with the day's learning target.
- Assign homework that reinforces a skill that has been taught and formatively assessed in the classroom to ensure that all students understand the concept. If the formative assessment shows that students do not understand the concept, homework on that topic or skill will not be assigned.
- Assign homework that provides opportunities to engage parents and families in the instructional process and has real-world applications.
- Allow time for free reading as part of homework assignments.

All homework will be assessed for understanding within a reasonable timeframe. Teachers will provide appropriate feedback to students and will keep accurate records of homework assessments to use during student conferences and parent-teacher meetings. Homework assessments are not to be included as part of summative assessments for grading purposes.

Teachers shall develop a system for students to note homework (e.g., assignment/agenda book, homework log). This system should remain constant for the entire school year. This system may include the class, the assignment, the due date, necessary materials, and a parent confirmation signature or initials. Students that consecutively or continually do not complete homework assignments will result in teacher-student conference, teacher-parent conference, or any combination thereof.

Evaluation:

During common planning and as part of professional learning, teachers will reflect weekly on the strategies used, discuss successes and challenges, share possible solutions to challenges, and identify areas needing further support. Professional learning community (PLC) team leads will collect the data from these reflections and bring to monthly Leadership meeting.

Date Adopted: _____

Date Reviewed/Revised: _____

Date Reviewed/Revised: _____