

CPEMS RATING GUIDE

Curriculum

A rating of **NOT YET MEETING THE STANDARD** is appropriate if any of the following exist:

- The absence of purposefully designed curriculum (course offerings, co-curricular programs, and other learning opportunities)
- Insufficient opportunities for all students to practice and achieve each of the learning expectations
- Lack of a level of adherence by the school to Indicator 6 in Standard 7 (facilities), Community Resources for Learning, to sufficiently support the delivery of the curriculum

A rating of **LIMITED** is appropriate if the school has written curriculum that is purposefully designed and provides sufficient opportunities for all students to practice and achieve each of the learning expectations, but does not minimally adhere to any of the following:

- The curriculum is written in a common format which includes units of study with essential questions, concepts, content, and skills; the school's learning expectations; instructional strategies; and developmentally appropriate assessment practices
- The curriculum emphasizes depth of understanding and application of knowledge through inquiry and problem-solving, exploration and creativity, higher order thinking, cross-disciplinary learning, authentic learning opportunities both in and out of school, and informed and ethical use of technology
- The taught curriculum aligns with the written curriculum
- There is coordination between and among academic areas and articulation with receiving and sending schools
- Staffing levels to support curriculum review and development, instructional materials, technology, equipment, supplies, facilities, and the resources of the library media center are sufficient
- The professional staff has sufficient personnel, time, and financial resources for ongoing and collaborative development, evaluation, and revision of the curriculum

A rating of **ACCEPTABLE** is appropriate if all of the following are present:

- The curriculum, on the whole, is written in a common format including essential questions, concepts, content and skills, the school's learning expectations, instructional strategies, and developmentally appropriate assessment practices
- The curriculum emphasizes depth of understanding and application of knowledge
- The curriculum, as taught, aligns with the written curriculum
- Coordination between and among academic areas and articulation with receiving and sending schools occurs
- Staffing levels, instructional materials, technology, equipment, supplies, facilities, and resources of the library media center are sufficient to fully implement the curriculum
- Personnel, time, and financial resources for ongoing and collaborative development, evaluation, and revision of the curriculum are sufficient

A rating of **EXEMPLARY** is appropriate if all of the descriptors in the **ACCEPTABLE** rating are met on a consistent level and the school's curriculum evidences significant:

- Use of essential questions, concepts, content, skills, and the learning expectations
- Depth of understanding and application of knowledge through inquiry, problem-solving, exploration and creativity, higher order thinking, cross-disciplinary learning, authentic learning opportunities both in and out of school, and informed use of technology
- Collaboration between and among academic areas and articulation with receiving and sending schools
- Provision of personnel, time, and financial resources for ongoing and collaborative development, evaluation, and revision of the curriculum which uses assessment results and current research