

Academic Core Reflection Questions and Strategies

Take a few minutes to reflect on the following questions based on the five foundational curricular pieces of an academic core. Then list some strategies you can employ to strengthen each component of the academic core.

Academic Core Reflection Questions	Strategies for Strengthening
<p>Pacing Guide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is a common pacing guide in place for each grade level, department, or course? • Do I use the pacing guide in observations and conversations with teachers? • Do I work with teams to review the document, revise it, and keep it timely and meaningful? 	
<p>Common Formative Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are CFAs in place so that I, along with teachers, understand how students are learning? • Do we have meaningful data conversations after a CFA is administered? • Do I lead teachers in creating instructional goals? Are accelerations and enrichments in place based on the data? 	
<p>Literacy Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the school have a systematic literacy framework in place for all students? Are we aligned in our minilessons, vocabulary work, and guided group instruction? • For students not reading at grade level, does the schedule provide additional time with specific reading strategies in place? • Do teachers monitor reading growth? • Are students consistently reading, discussing, and writing throughout the semester? • Do teachers share students' writing samples with me? With each other? With other students? 	
<p>Mathematics Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the school have a systematic mathematics framework in place for all students? (For example, all mathematics classes begin with a daily mathematics review, all classes have consistent conceptual lessons, all classes have problem-solving posters in place for depth of learning, and so on.) • Do I lead teachers in creating instructional goals? Are accelerations and enrichments in place based on the data? 	
<p>Units of Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have teachers developed the essential standards into challenging and engaging units for students? • Does each unit have a culminating assessment or project to assess student learning? • Are the units full of interesting texts and writing prompts? • Do I lead teachers in creating instructional goals? 	