

# 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 21<sup>st</sup> century learning expectations
- Lack of a level of alignment by the school to Indicator 5 in Standard 7, 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 21<sup>st</sup> century learning expectations, but does not minimally align 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 21<sup>st</sup> century learning expectations; instructional strategies; and assessment practices that include the use of specific and measurable criteria for success, such as school-wide analytic or course-specific rubrics
- The curriculum emphasizes depth of understanding and application of knowledge through inquiry and problem-solving, 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 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 21<sup>st</sup> century learning expectations, instructional strategies, and assessment practices including the use of specific and measurable criteria for success, such as school-wide analytic or course-specific rubrics
- 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 sending schools occurs
- Staffing levels, instructional materials, technology, equipment, supplies, facilities, and resources of the library/media center are sufficient
- 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 21<sup>st</sup> century learning expectations
- Depth of understanding and application of knowledge through inquiry, problem-solving, higher order thinking, cross-disciplinary learning, authentic learning opportunities both in and out of school, and informed and ethical use of technology
- Collaboration between and among academic areas and articulation with 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