

## Culturally Responsive School Checklist and Goal Setting

District:

School:

This reflection tool can be used individually or in teams. If the Look-for is not present, then think about what you will do to improve how the look-for can be integrated in your classroom or school. Then, based on your answers on the checklist, choose a guiding principle to focus on. Then list three steps that you can take to strengthen that guiding principle in your context.

	Look-Fors	Yes	Sometimes	No	To improve on how this look-			
					for is incorporated in my			
					classroom or school, I will			
	Guiding Principle #1: Culturally responsive teaching is assets-based							
Α.	Administrators, teachers, and staff							
	pronounce students' names correctly.							
В.	Administrators, teachers, and staff show							
	interest in students' home languages by							
	learning a few words or phrases.							
C.	Administrators, teachers, and staff are							
	aware of students' interests outside of							
_	the classroom or school setting.							
D.	The school puts supports in place to help							
	students and their families overcome							
	obstacles that may get in the way of							
-	student learning or family participation.							
∟.	Students' cultural, historic, and linguistic							
	backgrounds are incorporated into instruction.							
G	iding Principle #2: Culturally responsi	vo inc	truction simu	ultan	ously supports and challongs			
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-	MLs are taught grade-level content and							
	texts. Instructional texts include a							
	balance of grade-level texts and texts at							
	student-s reading and language levels.							
G.	Instruction and materials are							
	appropriately scaffolded so MLs are able							
	to access and engage with grade level							
	content and texts.							
Η.	MLs have access to and the support							
	needed to be successful in gifted, honors							
	and/or college preparatory classes.							
Ι.	Instruction includes activities that require							
	students to consider alternative ways of							
	understanding information and push							
	students to challenge the status quo.							
J.	Instruction includes activities that foster							
	critical thinking and reflection (e.g.,							
	open-ended discussion prompt and							
	student monitoring of their learning).							

## Culturally Responsive School Checklist and Goal Setting (continued)

Look-Fors	Yes	Sometimes	No			
				for is incorporated in my		
				classroom or school, I will		
Guiding Principle #3: Culturally responsive teaching places students at the center of the learning.						
K. Classroom activities frequently include						
structured pair and small-group work.						
L. Students and teachers develop the						
classroom norms and expectations						
together.						
M. MLs are given choice in their learning.						
N. MLs are given opportunities to speak and						
write about their lives and people and						
events that are important to them. O. MLs are involved in goal setting and						
assessment through the use of student						
goal sheets, checklists, peer-editing						
activities, and teacher-student or						
student-student conferencing.						
Guiding Principle #4: Culturally responsiv	ve tea	ching leverad	ies s	tudents' linguistic and cultural		
backgrounds.						
P. Multicultural material and resources are						
incorporated throughout the curriculum						
and school.						
Q. Teachers use a variety of instructional						
strategies to assess, activate, and build						
MLs' background knowledge.						
R. Lessons and units include perspectives						
of individuals that come from student's						
home cultures (e.g., literature written by						
non-US authors).						
S. Lessons include opportunities for MLs to						
use bilingual resources (e.g.,						
dictionaries, books glossaries) and home languages.						
T. Leaders and role models for ML						
communities are included in learning						
(e.g., community members are invited to						
speak in class).						

## **Culturally Responsive School Checklist and Goal Setting (continued)**

Look-Fors	Yes	Sometimes	No	To improve on how this look- for is incorporated in my classroom or school, I will	
Guiding Principle #5: Culturally responsive teaching unites students' schools, families and communities.					
U. The school visually demonstrates a commitment to multicultural families and students (e.g., flags from student's home countries, signs posted in multiple languages, student work displayed on walls.)					
V. Interpreters are provided at all school events.					
W. Educators use a variety of tools to communicate with ML families (e.g., emails, phone calls, texts in home languages, flyers in home languages).					
X. School administration looks for ways to remove barriers that might prevent ML families from participating (e.g., timing of events, child care, transportation).					
Y. ML family members are actively involved with school committees or organizations that are open to parents (e.g., PTA).					

## **Goal Setting:**

Based on my responses to the checklist, the guiding principle I prioritize to focus on is:

I will take the following three steps to strengthen this guiding principle:

1	
I	٠

2.

3.

Culturally Responsive Teaching for Multilingual Learners: Tools for Equity by Sydney Snyder and Diane Staehr Fenner.