

## **Educator Evaluation**

### **1) Purpose of Educator Evaluation**

- A) This contract language was locally negotiated and based on M.G.L., c.71, § 38; M.G.L. c.150E; the Educator Evaluation regulations, 603 CMR 35.00 et seq.; and the Model System for Educator Evaluation developed and which may be updated from time to time by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. See 603 CMR 35.02 (definition of model system). In the event of a conflict between this collective bargaining agreement and the governing laws and regulations, the laws and regulations will prevail.
- B) The regulatory purposes of evaluation are:
  - i) To promote student learning, growth, and achievement by providing Educators with feedback for improvement, enhanced opportunities for professional growth, and clear structures for accountability, 603 CMR 35.01(2)(a);
  - ii) To provide a record of facts and assessments for personnel decisions, 35.01(2) (b);
  - iii) To ensure that every school committee has a system to enhance the professionalism and accountability of teachers and administrators that will enable them to assist all students to perform at high levels, 35.01(3); and
  - iv) To assure effective teaching and administrative leadership, 35.01(3).

### **2) Definitions (\* indicates definition is generally based on 603 CMR 35.02)**

- A) **\*Artifacts of Professional Practice:** Products of an Educator's work and student work samples that demonstrate the Educator's knowledge and skills with respect to specific performance standards.
- B) **Caseload Educator:** Educators who teach or counsel individual or small groups of students through consultation with the regular classroom teacher, for example, school nurses, guidance counselors, speech and language pathologists, and some reading specialists and special education teachers.
- C) **Classroom teacher:** Educators who teach preK-12 whole classes, and teachers of special subjects as such as art, music, library, and physical education. May also include special education teachers and reading specialists who teach whole classes.

- D) **Categories of Evidence:** Multiple measures of student learning, growth, and achievement, judgments based on observations and artifacts of professional practice, including unannounced observations of practice of any duration; and additional evidence relevant to one or more Standards of Effective Teaching Practice (603 CMR 35.03).
- E) **Common Assessments:** Identical or comparable assessments of student learning, growth, and achievement related to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, Massachusetts Vocational Technical Education Frameworks, or other relevant frameworks used by educators in the same role across the district. These assessments may be commercial assessments or district-developed, and may include, but are not limited to: portfolios, pre- and post-tests, unit and course assessments, performance assessments, and capstone projects.
- F) **\*Educator(s):** Inclusive term that applies to all classroom teachers and caseload educators, unless otherwise noted.
- G) **\*Educator Plan:** The growth or improvement actions identified as part of each Educator's evaluation. The type of plan is determined by the Educator's career stage, overall performance rating, and the rating of impact on student learning, growth and achievement. There shall be four types of Educator Plans:
- i) **Developing Educator Plan** shall mean a plan developed by the Educator and the Evaluator for one school year or less for an Educator without Professional Teacher Status (PTS); or, at the discretion of an Evaluator, for an Educator with PTS in a new assignment.
  - ii) **Self-Directed Growth Plan** shall mean a plan developed by the Educator for one or two school years for Educators with PTS who are rated proficient or exemplary.
  - iii) **Directed Growth Plan** shall mean a plan developed by the Educator and the Evaluator of one school year or less for Educators with PTS who are rated needs improvement.
  - iv) **Improvement Plan** shall mean a plan developed by the Evaluator of at least 30 calendar days and no more than one school year for Educators with PTS who are rated unsatisfactory with goals specific to improving the Educator's unsatisfactory performance. In those cases where an Educator is rated unsatisfactory near the close of a school year, the plan may include activities during the summer preceding the next school year.
- H) **\*DESE/Department:** The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

- I) **\*Evaluation:** The ongoing process of defining goals and identifying, gathering, and using information as part of a process to improve professional performance (the “formative evaluation” and “formative assessment”) and to assess total job effectiveness and make personnel decisions (the “summative evaluation”).
- J) **\*Evaluator:** Any person designated by a superintendent who has primary or supervisory responsibility for observation and evaluation. The superintendent is responsible for ensuring that all Evaluators have training in the principles of supervision and evaluation. Each Educator will have one primary Evaluator at any one time responsible for determining performance ratings.
- i) **Primary Evaluator** shall be the person who determines the Educator’s performance ratings and evaluation.
  - ii) **Supervising Evaluator** shall be the person responsible for developing the Educator Plan, supervising the Educator’s progress through formative assessments, evaluating the Educator’s progress toward attaining the Educator Plan goals, and making recommendations about the evaluation ratings to the primary Evaluator at the end of the Educator Plan. The Supervising Evaluator may be the primary Evaluator or his/her designee.
  - iii) **Teaching Staff Assigned to More Than One Building:** Each Educator who is assigned to more than one building will be evaluated by the appropriate administrator where the individual is assigned most of the time. The principal of each building in which the Educator serves must review and sign the evaluation, and may add written comments. In cases where there is no predominate assignment, the superintendent will determine who the primary evaluator will be.
  - iv) **Notification:** The Educator shall be notified in writing of his/her primary Evaluator and supervising Evaluator, if any, at the outset of each new evaluation cycle. The Evaluator(s) may be changed upon notification in writing to the Educator.
- K) **Evaluation Cycle:** A five-component process that all Educators follow consisting of 1) Self-Assessment; 2) Goal-setting and Educator Plan development; 3) Implementation of the Plan; 4) Formative Assessment/Evaluation; and 5) Summative Evaluation.
- L) **Expected Impact:** shall mean the educator meets or exceeds anticipated student learning gains on multiple measures of student learning, growth, and achievement. The evaluator shall use professional judgment to determine whether the educator is having expected impact on student learning, based on student learning gains on common assessments and, where available, statewide student growth measures. The evaluator’s professional judgment

may include, but is not limited to, consideration of the educator's student population and specific learning context. Anticipated learning gains must be consistent across the district for common assessments and agreed upon by the educator and evaluator for other assessments.

- M) **\*Experienced Educator:** An educator with Professional Teacher Status (PTS).
- N) **\*Family:** Includes students' parents, legal guardians, foster parents, or primary caregivers.
- O) **\*Formative Assessment:** The process used to assess progress towards attaining goals set forth in Educator plans, performance on standards, or both. This process may take place at any time(s) during the cycle of evaluation, but typically takes place at mid-cycle.
- P) **\*Formative Evaluation:** An evaluation conducted at the end of Year 1 for an Educator on a 2-year Self-Directed Growth plan which is used to arrive at a rating on progress towards attaining the goals set forth in the Educator Plan, performance on Standards and Indicators of Effective Teaching Practice, or both.
- Q) **\*Goal:** A specific, actionable, and measurable area of improvement as set forth in an Educator's plan. A goal may pertain to any or all of the following: Educator practice in relation to Performance Standards, Educator practice in relation to indicators, or specified improvement in student learning, growth and achievement. Goals may be developed by individual Educators, by the Evaluator, or by teams, departments, or groups of Educators who have the same role.
- R) **\*Measurable:** That which can be classified or estimated in relation to a scale, rubric, or standards.
- S) **Multiple Measures of Student Learning:** Measures must include a combination of classroom, school and district assessments, student growth percentiles on state assessments, if state assessments are available, and student ACCESS gain scores. This definition may be revised as required by regulations or agreement of the parties upon issuance of ESE guidance.
- T) **\*Observation:** A data gathering process that includes notes and judgments made during one or more classroom or worksite visits(s) of any duration by the Evaluator and may include examination of artifacts of practice including student work. Classroom or worksite observations conducted pursuant to this article must result in feedback to the Educator. Normal supervisory responsibilities of department, building and district administrators will also cause administrators to drop in on classes and other activities in the worksite at various times as deemed necessary by the administrator. Carrying out these supervisory responsibilities, when they do not result in targeted and constructive feedback to the Educator, are not observations as defined in this Article.

U) **Parties:** The parties to this agreement are the Hadley school committee and the Hadley Education Association.

V) **\*Performance Rating:** Describes the Educator's performance on each performance standard and overall. There shall be four performance ratings:

1. Exemplary: the Educator's performance consistently and significantly exceeds the requirements of a standard or overall. The rating of exemplary on a standard indicates that practice significantly exceeds proficient and could serve as a model of practice on that standard district-wide.
2. Proficient: the Educator's performance fully and consistently meets the requirements of a standard or overall. Proficient practice is understood to be fully satisfactory.
3. Needs Improvement: the Educator's performance on a standard or overall is below the requirements of a standard or overall, but is not considered to be unsatisfactory at this time. Improvement is necessary and expected.
4. Unsatisfactory: the Educator's performance on a standard or overall has not significantly improved following a rating of needs improvement, or the Educator's performance is consistently below the requirements of a standard or overall and is considered inadequate, or both.

W) **\*Performance Standards:** Locally developed standards and indicators pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, § 38 and consistent with, and supplemental to 603 CMR 35.00. The parties may agree to limit standards and indicators to those set forth in 603 CMR 35.03.

X) **\*Professional Teacher Status:** PTS is the status granted to an Educator pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, § 41.

Y) **Rating of Overall Educator Performance:** The Educator's overall performance rating is based on the Evaluator's professional judgment and examination of evidence of the Educator's performance against the four Performance Standards and the Educator's attainment of goals set forth in the Educator Plan, as follows:

- i) Standard 1: Curriculum, Planning and Assessment
- ii) Standard 2: Teaching All Students
- iii) Standard 3: Family and Community Engagement
- iv) Standard 4: Professional Culture

v) Attainment of Professional Practice Goal(s)

vi) Attainment of Student Learning Goal(s)

Z) **\*Rubric:** A scoring tool that describes characteristics of practice or artifacts at different levels of performance. The rubrics for Standards and Indicators of Effective Teaching Practice are used to rate Educators on Performance Standards, these rubrics consists of:

- i) Standards: Describes broad categories of professional practice, including those required in 603 CMR 35.03
- ii) Indicators: Describes aspects of each standard, including those required in 603 CMR 35.03 as amended 2/28/2017.
- iii) Elements: Defines the individual components under each indicator
- iv) Descriptors: Describes practice at four levels of performance for each element.

AA) **\*Summative Evaluation:** An evaluation used to arrive at a rating on each standard, an overall rating, and as a basis to make personnel decisions. The summative evaluation includes the Evaluator's judgments of the Educator's performance against Performance Standards and the Educator's attainment of goals set forth in the Educator's Plan.

BB) **\*Superintendent:** The person employed by the school committee pursuant to M.G.L. c.71 §59 and §59A. The superintendent is responsible for the implementation of 603 CMR 35.00.

CC) **\*Teacher:** An Educator employed in a position requiring a certificate or license as described in 603 CMR 7.04(3) (a, b, and d) and in the area of vocational education as provided in 603 CMR 4.00. Teachers may include, for example, classroom teachers, librarians, guidance counselors, or school nurses.

DD) **Walkthrough:** Does not imply a simple pass through in a brief period of time. It is a collegial, organized visit through a school's learning areas to focus on:

- i) What students are learning
- ii) How students are being taught
- iii) How the students and teachers know if the students have learned what is being taught
- iv) What the teacher does if the students didn't learn what is being taught

- v) How the classroom is organized to enable students to be successful.

3) **Evidence Used In Evaluation**

The following categories of evidence shall be used in evaluating each Educator:

- A) Multiple measures of student learning, growth, and achievement, which shall include:
  - i) Measures of student progress on classroom assessments that are aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks or other relevant frameworks and are comparable within grades or subjects in a school;
  - ii) Measures of student progress and/or achievement toward student learning goals set between the Educator and Evaluator for the school year or some other period of time established in the Educator Plan.
  - iii) Statewide growth measures where available, including the MCAS Student Growth Percentile and the Massachusetts English proficiency assessment.
  - iv) Common assessments of student learning, growth, and achievement
  - v) For Educators whose primary role is not as a classroom teacher, the appropriate measures of the Educator's contribution to student learning, growth, and achievement set by the district. The measures set by the district should be based on the Educator's role and responsibility.
- B) Judgments based on observations and artifacts of practice including:
  - i) Unannounced observations of practice of any duration.
  - ii) Announced observation(s) for non-PTS Educators in their first two year of practice in a school, Educators on Improvement Plans, and as determined by the Evaluator.
  - iii) Examination of Educator work products.
  - iv) Examination of student work samples.

- C) Evidence relevant to one or more Performance Standards, including but not limited to:
- i) Evidence compiled and presented by the Educator, including :
    - (a) Evidence of fulfillment of professional responsibilities and growth such as self-assessments, peer collaboration, professional development linked to goals in the Educator plans, contributions to the school community and professional culture;
    - (b) Evidence of active outreach to and engagement with families; For example: phone calls, emails, progress reports, open houses, teacher conferences, teacher websites and other correspondence.
  - ii) Evidence of progress towards professional practice goal(s);
  - iii) Evidence of progress toward student learning outcomes goal(s).
  - iv) Student Feedback
  - v) Any other relevant evidence from any source that the Evaluator shares with the Educator. Other relevant evidence could include information provided by other administrators such as the superintendent.

#### **4) Rubric**

The rubrics are a scoring tool used for the Educator's self-assessment, the formative assessment, the formative evaluation and the summative evaluation. The district has adopted the rubrics provided by DESE as amended 2/28/2107.

#### **5) Evaluation Cycle: Training**

#### **6) Evaluation Cycle: Annual Orientation**

- A) At the start of each school year, the superintendent, principal or designee shall provide information for Educators and Evaluators focused substantially on educator evaluation. The superintendent, principal or designee shall:
- i) Provide an overview of the evaluation process, including goal setting and the educator plans.
  - ii) Provide all Educators with directions for obtaining a copy of the forms used by the district. These may be electronically provided.
  - iii) The faculty meeting may be digitally recorded to facilitate orientation of Educators hired after the beginning of the school year.



- iv) The district shall provide professional development for educators hired during the school year after the annual orientation has occurred. The professional development will be offered within three months of the date of hire. The superintendent shall determine the type and quality of the learning activity.

## **7) Evaluation Cycle: Self-Assessment**

### **A) Completing the Self-Assessment**

- i) The evaluation cycle begins with the Educator completing and submitting to the Evaluator a self-assessment by October 1st or within four weeks of the start of their employment at the school.
- ii) The self-assessment includes:
  - (a) An analysis of evidence of student learning, growth and achievement for students under the Educator's responsibility.
  - (b) An assessment of practice against each of the four Performance Standards of effective practice using the district's rubric.
  - (c) Proposed goals to pursue:
    - (1) At least one goal directly related to improving the Educator's own professional practice.
    - (2) At least one goal directed related to improving student learning.

### **B) Proposing the goals**

- i) Educators must consider goals for grade-level, subject-area, department teams, or other groups of Educators who share responsibility for student learning and results, except as provided in (ii) below. Educators may meet with teams to consider establishing team goals. Evaluators may participate in such meetings.
- ii) For Educators in their first year of practice, the Evaluator or his/her designee will meet with each Educator by October 1<sup>st</sup> (or within four weeks of the Educator's first day of employment if the Educator begins employment after September 15<sup>th</sup>) to assist the Educator in completing the self-assessment and drafting the professional practice and student learning goals which must include induction and mentoring activities.

- iii) Unless the Evaluator indicates that an Educator in his/her second or third years of practice should continue to address induction and mentoring goals pursuant to 603 CMR 7.12, the Educator may address shared grade level or subject area team goals.
- iv) For Educators with PTS and ratings of proficient or exemplary, the goals may be team goals. In addition, these Educators may include individual professional practice goals that address enhancing skills that enable the Educator to share proficient practices with colleagues or develop leadership skills.
- v) For Educators with PTS and ratings of needs improvement or unsatisfactory, the professional practice goal(s) must address specific standards and indicators identified for improvement. In addition, the goals may address shared grade level or subject area team goals.

**8) Evaluation Cycle: Goal Setting and Development of the Educator Plan**

- A) Every Educator has an Educator Plan that includes, but is not limited to, one goal related to the improvement of practice; one goal for the improvement of student learning. The Plan also outlines actions the Educator must take to attain the goals established in the Plan and benchmarks to assess progress. Goals may be developed by individual Educators, by the Evaluator, or by teams, departments, or groups of Educators who have the similar roles and/or responsibilities. See Sections 15-19 for more on Educator Plans.
- B) To determine the goals to be included in the Educator Plan, the Evaluator reviews the goals the Educator has proposed in the Self-Assessment, using evidence of Educator performance and impact on student learning, growth and achievement based on the Educator's self-assessment and other sources that Evaluator shares with the Educator. The process for determining the Educator's impact on student learning, growth and achievement will be determined after ESE issues guidance on this matter. See #22, below.
- C) Educator Plan Development Meetings shall be conducted as follows:
  - i) Educators in the same school may meet with the Evaluator in teams and/or individually at the end of the previous evaluation cycle or by October 15<sup>th</sup> of the next academic year to develop their Educator Plan. Educators shall not be expected to meet during the summer hiatus.
  - ii) For those Educators new to the school, the meeting with the Evaluator to establish the Educator Plan must occur by October 15<sup>th</sup> or within six weeks of the start of their assignment in that school

- iii) The Evaluator shall meet individually with Educators with PTS and ratings of needs improvement or unsatisfactory to develop professional practice goal(s) that must address specific standards and indicators identified for improvement. In addition, the goals may address shared grade level or subject matter goals.
  - iv) During the development of the Educator Plan, evaluators shall communicate clear expectations for educator impact, including but not limited to, anticipated student learning gains for the multiple measures that will be used as evidence of educator performance. Anticipated learning gains must be consistent across the district for common assessments and agreed upon by the educator and evaluator for other classroom assessments.
- D) The Evaluator completes the Educator Plan by November 1st. The Educator shall sign the Educator Plan within 5 school days of its receipt and may include a written response. The Educator's signature indicates that the Educator received the plan in a timely fashion. The signature does not indicate agreement or disagreement with its contents. The Evaluator retains final authority over the content of the Educator's Plan.

**9) Evaluation Cycle: Observation of Practice and Examination of Artifacts – Educators without PTS**

- A) In the first two years of practice or first year assigned to a school:
  - i) The Educator shall have at least one announced observation during the school year using the protocol described in section 11B, below.
  - ii) The Educator shall have at least four unannounced observations during the school year.
- B) In the third year of practice a non-PTS Educator in the school:
  - i) The Educator shall have at least three unannounced observations during the school year.

**10) Evaluation Cycle: Observation of Practice and Examination of Artifacts – Educators with PTS**

- A) The Educator whose overall rating is proficient or exemplary must have at least two walkthroughs during the two-year evaluation cycle. One will be unannounced and the second will be unannounced or announced based upon an agreement between the evaluator and the Educator.

- B) The Educator whose overall rating is needs improvement must be observed according to the Directed Growth Plan during the period of Plan which must include at least two unannounced observations.
- C) The Educator whose overall rating is unsatisfactory must be observed according to the Improvement Plan which must include both unannounced and announced observation. The number and frequency of the observations shall be determined by the Evaluator, but in no case, for improvement plans of one year, shall there be fewer than one announced and four unannounced observations. For Improvement Plans of six months or fewer, there must be no fewer than one announced and two unannounced observations.

## 11) Observations

The Evaluator's first observation of the Educator should take place by November 15. Observations required by the Educator Plan should be completed by May 30<sup>th</sup>. The Evaluator may conduct additional observations after this date.

The Evaluator is not required nor expected to review all the indicators in a rubric during an observation.

- A) Unannounced Observations/Announced walkthroughs by the Mutual agreement between the Evaluator and the Educator
  - i) Unannounced observations may be in the form of partial or full-period classroom visitations, Instructional Rounds, Walkthroughs, Learning Walks, or any other means deemed useful by the Evaluator, principal, superintendent or other administrator.
  - ii) The Educator will be provided with at least brief written feedback from the Evaluator within 5 school days of the observation. The written feedback shall be delivered to the Educator in person, by email, placed in the Educator's mailbox or mailed to the Educator's home.
  - iii) Any observation or series of observations resulting in one or more standards judged to be unsatisfactory or needs improvement for the first time must be followed by at least one observation of at least 30 minutes in duration within 30 school days.
- B) Announced Observations
  - i) All non-PTS Educators in their first year in the school, PTS Educators on Improvement Plans and other educators at the discretion of the evaluator shall have at least one Announced Observation.

- (a) The Evaluator shall select the date and time of the lesson or activity to be observed and discuss with the Educator any specific goal(s) for the observation.
- (b) Within 5 school days of the scheduled observation, upon request of either the Evaluator or Educator, the Evaluator and Educator shall meet for a pre-observation conference. In lieu of a meeting, the Educator may inform the Evaluator in writing of the nature of the lesson, the student population served, and any other information that will assist the Evaluator to assess performance
  - (1) The Educator shall provide the Evaluator a draft of the lesson, student conference, IEP plan or activity. If the actual plan is different, the Educator will provide the Evaluator with a copy prior to the observation.
  - (2) The Educator will be notified as soon as possible if the Evaluator will not be able to attend the scheduled observation. The observation will be rescheduled with the Educator as soon as reasonably practical.
- c) Within 5 school days of the observation, the Evaluator and Educator shall meet for a post-observation conference. This timeframe may be extended due to unavailability on the part of either the Evaluator or the Educator, but shall be rescheduled within 24 hours if possible.
- d) The Evaluator shall provide the Educator with written feedback within 10 school days of the post-observation conference. For any standard where the Educator's practice was found to be unsatisfactory or needs improvement, the feedback must:
  - 1) Describe the basis for the Evaluator's judgment.
  - 2) Describe actions the Educator should take to improve his/her performance.
  - 3) Identify support and/or resources the Educator may use in his/her improvement.
  - 4) State that the Educator is responsible for addressing the need for improvement.

## **12) Evaluation Cycle: Formative Assessment**

- A) A specific purpose for evaluation is to promote student learning, growth and achievement by providing Educators with feedback for improvement. Evaluators are expected to make frequent unannounced visits to classrooms. Evaluators are expected to give targeted constructive feedback to Educators based on their observations of practice, examination of artifacts, and analysis of multiple

measures of student learning, growth and achievement in relation to the Standards and Indicators of Effective Teaching Practice.

- B) Formative Assessment may be ongoing throughout the evaluation cycle but typically takes place mid-cycle when a Formative Assessment report is completed. For an Educator on a two-year Self-Directed Growth Plan, the mid-cycle Formative Assessment report is replaced by the Formative Evaluation report at the end of year one. See section 13, below.
  - C) The Formative Assessment report provides written feedback and ratings to the Educator about his/her progress towards attaining the goals set forth in the Educator Plan, performance on Performance Standards and overall, or both
  - D) No less than four weeks before the due date for the Formative Assessment report, which due date shall be established by the Evaluator with written notice to the Educator, the Educator shall provide to the Evaluator evidence of family outreach and engagement, fulfillment of professional responsibility and growth, and progress on attaining professional practice and student learning goals. The educator may provide to the evaluator additional evidence of the educator's performances against the four Performance Standards.
  - E) Upon the request of either the Evaluator or the Educator, the Evaluator and the Educator will meet either before or after completion of the Formative Assessment Report.
  - F) The Evaluator shall complete the Formative Assessment report and provide a copy to the Educator. All Formative Assessment reports must be signed by the Evaluator and delivered face-to-face, by email or to the Educator's school mailbox or home.
  - G) The Educator may reply in writing to the Formative Assessment report within 5 school days of receiving the report.
  - H) The Educator shall sign the Formative Assessment report within 5 school days of receiving the report. The signature indicates that the Educator received the Formative Assessment report in a timely fashion. The signature does not indicate agreement or disagreement with its contents.
  - I) As a result of the Formative Assessment Report, the Evaluator may change the activities in the Educator Plan.
  - J) If the rating in the Formative Assessment report differs from the last summative rating the Educator received, the Evaluator may place the Educator on a different Educator Plan, appropriate to the new rating.
- 13) Evaluation Cycle: Formative Evaluation for Two Year Self-Directed Plans Only**
- A) Educators on two year Self-Directed Growth Educator Plans receive a Formative Evaluation report near the end of the first year of the two year cycle. The

Educator's performance rating for that year shall be assumed to be the same as the previous summative rating unless evidence demonstrates a significant change in performance in which case the rating on the performance standards may change, and the Evaluator may place the Educator on a different Educator plan, appropriate to the new rating.

- B) The Formative Evaluation report provides written feedback and ratings to the Educator about his/her progress towards attaining the goals set forth in the Educator Plan, performance on each performance standard and overall, or both.
- C) No less than four weeks before the due date for the Formative Evaluation report, which due date shall be established by the Evaluator with written notice provided to the Educator, the Educator shall provide to the Evaluator evidence of family outreach and engagement, fulfillment of professional responsibility and growth, and progress on attaining professional practice and student learning goals. The educator may also provide to the evaluator additional evidence of the educator's performance against the four Performance Standards.
- D) The Evaluator shall complete the Formative Evaluation report and provide a copy to the Educator. All Formative Evaluation reports must be signed by the Evaluator and delivered face-to-face, by email or to the Educator's school mailbox or home.
- E) Upon the request of either the Evaluator or the Educator, the Evaluator and the Educator will meet either before or after completion of the Formative Evaluation Report.
- F) The Educator may reply in writing to the Formative Evaluation report within 5 school days of receiving the report.
- G) The Educator shall sign the Formative Evaluation report within 5 school days of receiving the report. The signature indicates that the Educator received the Formative Evaluation report in a timely fashion. The signature does not indicate agreement or disagreement with its contents.
- H) As a result of the Formative Evaluation report, the Evaluator may change the activities in the Educator Plan.
- I) If the rating in the Formative Evaluation report differs from the last summative rating the Educator received, the Evaluator may place the Educator on a different Educator Plan, appropriate to the new rating.

#### **14) Evaluation Cycle: Summative Evaluation**

- A) The evaluation cycle concludes with a summative evaluation report. For Educators on a one or two year Educator Plan, the summative report must be written and provided to the educator by May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- B) The Evaluator determines a rating on each standard and an overall rating based on the Evaluator's professional judgment, an examination of evidence against the Performance Standards and evidence of the attainment of the Educator Plan goals.
- C) The professional judgment of the evaluator shall determine the overall summative rating that the Educator receives.
- D) For an educator whose overall performance rating is exemplary or proficient and whose anticipated student learning gains were less than expected, the evaluator's supervisor shall discuss and review the rating with the evaluator and the supervisor shall confirm or revise the educator's rating. In cases where the superintendent serves as the primary evaluator, the superintendent's decision on the rating shall not be subject to review.
- E) The summative evaluation rating must be based on evidence from multiple categories of evidence. MCAS Growth scores shall not be the sole basis for a summative evaluation rating.
- F) To be rated proficient overall, the Educator shall, at a minimum, have been rated proficient on the Curriculum, Planning and Assessment and the Teaching All Students Standards of Effective Teaching Practice.
- G) No less than four weeks before the due date for the Summative Evaluation report, which due date shall be established by the Evaluator with written notice provided to the Educator, the Educator will provide to the Evaluator evidence of family outreach and engagement, fulfillment of professional responsibility and growth, and progress on attaining professional practice and student learning goals. The educator may also provide to the evaluator additional evidence of the educator's performance against the four Performance Standards.
- H) The Summative Evaluation report should recognize areas of strength as well as identify recommendations for professional growth.
- I) The Evaluator shall deliver a signed copy of the Summative Evaluation report to the Educator face-to-face, by email or to the Educator's school mailbox or home no later than May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- J) The Evaluator shall meet with the Educator rated needs improvement or unsatisfactory to discuss the summative evaluation. The meeting shall occur by June 1st.



- K) The Evaluator may meet with the Educator rated proficient or exemplary to discuss the summative evaluation, if either the Educator or the Evaluator requests such a meeting. The meeting shall occur by June 10th.
- L) Upon mutual agreement, the Educator and the Evaluator may develop the Self-Directed Growth Plan for the following two years during the meeting on the Summative Evaluation report.
- M) The Educator shall sign the final Summative Evaluation report by June 15th. The signature indicates that the Educator received the Summative Evaluation report in a timely fashion. The signature does not indicate agreement or disagreement with its contents.
- N) The Educator shall have the right to respond in writing to the summative evaluation which shall become part of the final Summative Evaluation report.
- O) A copy of the signed final Summative Evaluation report shall be filed in the Educator's personnel file.
- P) The summative Evaluation will not occur before January 1.
- Q) All parties recognize that there may be times when there are extenuating circumstances necessitating Educator absence; such as illness, maternity leave, paternity leave, or death in the family, that that evaluator will take into consideration in all aspects of the evaluation.

#### **15) Educator Plans – General**

- A) Educator Plans shall be designed to provide Educators with feedback for improvement, professional growth, and leadership; and to ensure Educator effectiveness and overall system accountability. The Plan must be aligned to the standards and indicators and be consistent with district and school goals.
- B) The Educator Plan shall include, but is not limited to:
  - i. At least one goal related to improvement of practice tied to one or more Performance Standards;
  - ii. At least one goal for the improvement the learning, growth and achievement of the students under the Educator's responsibility;
  - iii. An outline of actions the Educator must take to attain the goals and benchmarks to assess progress. Actions must include specified professional development and learning activities that the Educator will participate in as a means of obtaining the goals, as well as other

support that may be suggested by the Evaluator or provided by the school or district. Examples may include but are not limited to coursework, self-study, action research, curriculum development, study groups with peers, and implementing new programs.

- C) It is the Educator's responsibility to attain the goals in the Plan and to participate in any trainings and professional development provided through the state, district, or other providers in accordance with the Educator Plan.

#### **16) Educator Plans: Developing Educator Plan**

The Developing Educator Plan is for all Educators without PTS, and, at the discretion of the Evaluator, Educators with PTS in new assignments. The Educator shall be evaluated at least annually.

#### **17) Educator Plans: Self-Directed Growth Plan**

- A) For any experienced educator who receives an evaluation rating of Exemplary or Proficient, the district shall take the following actions: The evaluator shall apply professional judgement to the evidence to place the educator on a one or two year Self-Directed Growth Plan.
- B) For educators placed on two-year Self-Directed Growth Plans:
  - i) The educator shall receive a summative evaluation at least every two years.
  - ii) The educator shall receive a formative evaluation at the end of the first year of the Educator Plan.
  - iii) The educator may be eligible for additional roles, responsibilities and compensation, as determined by the district and through collective bargaining, where applicable.
- C) For educators placed on one-year Self-Directed Growth Plans:
  - i) The educator and evaluator shall analyze any discrepancies in practice and student performance and seek to determine the causes of such discrepancies.
  - ii) The educator and evaluator shall discuss any aspects of practice that should be the focus of the plan.
  - iii) The plan shall be for one school year in duration.
  - iv) The plan may include a goal related to examining elements of practice that contributed to the evaluator's decision to assign the educator to a one-year plan.
  - v) The educator shall receive a summative evaluation at the end of the period determined in the plan, but at least annually.

#### **18) Educator Plans: Directed Growth Plan**

- A) A Directed Growth Plan is for those Educators with PTS whose overall rating is needs improvement.
- B) The goals in the Plan must address areas identified as needing improvement as determined by the Evaluator.

- C) The Evaluator shall complete a summative evaluation for the Educator at the end of the period determined by the Plan, but at least annually, and in no case later than June 10<sup>th</sup>.
- D) For an Educator on a Directed Growth Plan whose overall performance rating is at least proficient, the Evaluator will place the Educator on a Self-Directed Growth Plan for the next Evaluation Cycle.
- E) For an Educator on a Directed Growth Plan whose overall performance rating is not at least proficient, the Evaluator will rate the Educator as unsatisfactory and will place the Educator on an Improvement Plan for the next Evaluation Cycle.

### **19) Educator Plans: Improvement Plan**

- A) An Improvement Plan is for those Educators with PTS whose overall rating is unsatisfactory.
- B) The parties agree that in order to provide students with the best instruction, it may be necessary from time to time to place an Educator whose practice has been rated as unsatisfactory on an Improvement Plan of no fewer than 30 calendar days and no more than one school year. In the case of an Educator receiving a rating of unsatisfactory near the close of one school year, the Improvement Plan may include activities that occur during the summer before the next school year begins.
- C) The Evaluator must complete a summative evaluation for the Educator at the end of the period determined by the Evaluator for the Plan.
- D) An Educator on an Improvement Plan shall be assigned a Supervising Evaluator (see definitions). The Supervising Evaluator is responsible for providing the Educator with guidance and assistance in accessing the resources and professional development outlined in the Improvement Plan. The primary evaluator may be the Supervising Evaluator.
- E) The Improvement Plan shall define the problem(s) of practice identified through the observations and evaluation and detail the improvement goals to be met, the activities the Educator must take to improve and the assistance to be provided to the Educator by the district.
- F) The Improvement Plan process shall include:
  - i) Within ten school days of notification to the Educator that the Educator is being placed on an Improvement Plan, the Evaluator shall

schedule a meeting with the Educator to discuss the Improvement Plan. The Evaluator will develop the Improvement Plan, which will include the provision of specific assistance to the Educator.

ii) The Educator may request that a representative of the Hadley Education Association attend the meeting(s).

iii) If the Educator consents, the Hadley Education Association President will be informed that an Educator has been placed on an Improvement Plan.

- G) The Improvement Plan shall:
- i) Define the improvement goals directly related to the performance standard(s) and/or student learning outcomes that must be improved;
  - ii) Describe the activities and work products the Educator must complete as a means of improving performance;
  - iii) Describe the assistance that the district will make available to the Educator;
  - iv) Articulate the measurable outcomes that will be accepted as evidence of improvement;
  - v) Detail the timeline for completion of each component of the Plan, including at a minimum a mid-cycle formative assessment report of the relevant standard(s) and indicator(s);
  - vi) Identify the individuals assigned to assist the Educator which must include minimally the Supervising Evaluator;
  - vii) and include the signatures of the Educator and Supervising Evaluator.
- H) A copy of the signed Plan shall be provided to the Educator. The Educator's signature indicates that the Educator received the Improvement Plan in a timely fashion. The signature does not indicate agreement or disagreement with its contents.
- I) Decision on the Educator's status at the conclusion of the Improvement Plan.
- i) All determinations below must be made no later than June 1. One of three decisions must be made at the conclusion of the Improvement Plan:

- a) If the Evaluator determines that the Educator has improved his/her practice to the level of proficiency, the Educator will be placed on a Self-Directed Growth Plan.
- b) In those cases where the Educator was placed on an Improvement Plan as a result of his/her summative rating at the end of his/her Directed Growth Plan, if the Evaluator determines that the Educator is making substantial progress toward proficiency, the Evaluator shall place the Educator on a Directed Growth Plan.
- c) In those cases where the Educator was placed on an Improvement Plan as a result of his/her Summative rating at the end of his/her Directed Growth Plan, if the Evaluator determines that the Educator is not making substantial progress toward proficiency, the Evaluator shall recommend to the superintendent that the Educator be dismissed.
- d) If the Evaluator determines that the Educator's practice remains at the level of unsatisfactory, the Evaluator shall recommend to the superintendent that the Educator be dismissed.
- e) If the Educator did not have access to assistance and support defined in the improvement plan, the Educator may not be dismissed.
- f) The Educator will be afforded the right to present any artifacts or evidence to refute the evaluator's recommendation for dismissal.

**20. Timelines (Dates in italics are provided as guidance)**

Activity:	Completed By:	PTS on Two Year Plans
Superintendent, principal or designee meets with evaluators and educators to explain evaluation process	September 15	September 15 of year 1
Evaluator meets with 1 <sup>st</sup> year educators to assist in self-assessment and goal setting process Educator submits self-assessment and proposed goals	October 1	N/A
Evaluator meets with Educators in teams or individually to establish Educator Plans (may be established at Summative Evaluation Report meeting in prior school year)	October 15	October 15 of year 1
Evaluator completes Educator Plans	November 1	November 1 of year 1
Evaluator should complete first observation of each Educator	November 15	Any time during the 2-year evaluation cycle
Educator submits evidence of parent outreach, professional growth, progress on goals (and other standards if desired) *or 4 weeks before <i>Formative Assessment</i> Report date established by evaluator	January 5	First Monday after April break of year 1
Evaluator should complete mid-cycle Formative Assessment Reports for Educators on 1-year Educator Plans	February 1	June 1 of year 1
Evaluator holds Formative Assessment Meetings if requested by either Evaluator or Educator	February 15	June 1 of year 1
Educator submits evidence of parent outreach, professional growth, progress on goals (and other standards if desired) *or 4 weeks before <i>Summative Evaluation</i> Report date established by evaluator	First Monday after April break	First Monday after April break of year 2
Evaluator completes Summative Evaluation Report	May 30	May 30 of year 2
Evaluator meets with Educators whose overall Summative Evaluation ratings are Needs Improvement or Unsatisfactory	June 1	June 1 of year 2
Evaluator meets with Educators whose ratings are proficient or exemplary at request of Evaluator or Educator	June 10	June 10 of year 2
Educator signs Summative Evaluation Report and adds response, if any within 5 school days of receipt	June 15	June 15 of year 2

## **A) Educators on Plans of Less than One Year**

- i) The timeline for educators on Plans of less than one year will be established in the Educator Plan.

### **21. Career Advancement**

- A) In order to attain Professional Teacher Status, the Educator should achieve ratings of proficient or exemplary on each Performance Standard and overall. A principal considering making an employment decision that would lead to PTS for any Educator who has not been rated proficient or exemplary on each performance standard and overall on the most recent evaluation shall confer with the superintendent by May 1. The principal's decision is subject to review and approval by the superintendent.
- B) In order to qualify to apply for a teacher leader position, the Educator must have had a Summative Evaluation performance rating of proficient or exemplary for at least the previous two years.
- C) Educators with PTS whose summative performance rating is exemplary and, after 2013-14 whose impact on student learning is rated moderate or high, may be recognized and rewarded with leadership roles, promotions, additional compensation, public commendation or other acknowledgement as determined by the district through collective bargaining where applicable.

### **24. General Provisions**

- A) Only designated supervisors may serve as primary evaluators of Educators.
- B) Evaluators shall not make negative comments about the Educator's performance, or comments of a negative evaluative nature, in the presence of students, parents or other staff, except in the unusual circumstance where the Evaluator concludes that s/he must immediately and directly intervene. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to limit an administrator's ability to investigate a complaint, or secure assistance to support an Educator.
- C) The superintendent shall insure that Evaluators have training in supervision and evaluation, including the regulations and standards and indicators of effective teaching practice promulgated by ESE (35.03), and the evaluation Standards and Procedures established in this Agreement.
- D) Should there be a serious disagreement between the Educator and the Evaluator regarding an overall summative performance rating of unsatisfactory, the Educator may meet with the Evaluator's supervisor to discuss the disagreement. Should the Educator request such a meeting, the Evaluator's supervisor must meet with the Educator. The Evaluator may attend any such meeting at the discretion of the superintendent.

Additionally, the Educator has the right to have a representative from the Hadley Education Association present for all meetings.

E) Violations of this article are subject to the grievance and arbitration procedures. The arbitrator shall determine whether there was substantial compliance with the totality of the evaluation process. When the evaluation process results in the termination or non-renewal of an Educator, then no financial remedy or reinstatement shall issue if there was substantial compliance.