



## School Site Observation Protocol

### First impressions

- Grade level; how many students; racial/ethnic and gender composition; tracked/laned, mainstreamed/inclusive (i.e. English language learners, special ed students)?
- What are student and teacher attitudes and interactions like?

### Environment

- Set up and physical arrangement of tables/desks/chairs: rows? Table groups? Space to move?
- Board(s)—what's on it?
- Overhead, TV monitor, video—how used?
- Books and textbooks—where, how many, what kind? How used?
- Equipment (lab stuff); manipulatives

### Artifacts

- The walls: posters, messages, samples of student work—describe kind of work students are engaged in
- Students' notebooks and working tools – what are they doing and what tools are they using?

### Learning task/activity

- What are students asked to do (seatwork, reading the textbook, completing worksheets, discussing, presenting, IRE)?
- What is the kind of task? Is it a conceptual, problem-solving task or factual recall? Are students collecting information? Consulting each other and resources?
- How is this task related to previous and future learning tasks?

### Patterns of interaction

- *Students*: What is the level of engagement? How many students participate? Who participates? What are apparent norms of behavior and interaction? How are students responding to / interacting with the teacher? To each other?
- *Teacher*: What does the teacher do (moves around, moves from table to table, student to student, sits at his desk, lectures in front of class)? What kinds of questions? What's the feedback to students? How are instructions given (orally/in writing; explicit and clear?) Pace of teacher talk? If teacher talks for a relatively long time, what are students' reactions?

### Assessment

- How do students know how they are doing? What's the teacher's feedback like? Do students comment on each other's contributions and work? Are assessments authentic? Do students revise work from feedback?

### General impression

- What's the ambiance in this classroom?

### Talking to the students...

- What did you learn in this class today? This week?
- What kinds of assignments do you usually have? How much work?

- How well do you know the other kids in this class?
- What do you like most about this class? Least?

## Classroom Observation Notes – (Refer to protocol on cover page)

Name of observer: \_\_\_\_\_ School site: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade level/course: \_\_\_\_\_

### First impressions

### Environment

### Artifacts

### Learning task/activity

**Patterns of interaction**

**Assessment**

**General impression**

**Talking to the students**