



# Guiding Questions: Classroom Environment

As you prepare for the observations of Classroom Environment, please review these guiding questions. They may also be used during the conference.

## A. Creating an Environment of Respect and Rapport

- How is respect and rapport modeled by the teacher and students in this classroom?
- How does the teacher encourage students to interact in a respectful way and take responsibility for their actions?
- How does the teacher recognize the achievements and contribution of all students?
- How does the teacher encourage the students to take risks and be creative?
- How does the teacher respond to inappropriate behavior in a fair and equitable way?

## B. Establishing a Culture for Learning

- How does the teacher help the students to accept and respect the difference within the classroom in regard to experiences, ideas, culture, feelings, and points of view?
- How does the teacher group students for various assignments to promote social development?
- How does the teacher help the students to recognize their personal identity and as an important member of the classroom community?
- How does the teacher help the students to take responsibility for their behavior and learning?
- How do the rules, routines, and room arrangement promote social development and group responsibility?

## C. Managing Classroom Procedures

- How does the teacher decide what routines, rules, schedules, timelines, etc. are needed and when they are needed?
- How does the teacher develop the elements above and do they promote and maintain a climate of fairness and respect?
- How does the teacher introduce rules and procedures to the students? How did the teacher help the students to internalize them and become self-directed learners? How did the teacher involve the students in the development of the rules and procedures?