

# NEWPORT INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

## CLASSROOM WALKTHROUGH REFLECTIONS



Classroom walkthroughs are an instrumental strategy for collecting trends on the implementation of initiatives with a building while also providing feedback to teachers to help them improve their instructional practices. District & school leaders have collaborated to ensure consistency in the implementation of classroom walkthroughs.

### **District Walkthrough Procedures & Expectations**

District leaders developed the following procedures & expectations regarding the preparation for walkthroughs, the implementation of the walkthrough templates, and the analysis of walkthrough data:

- All District & School Leaders that conduct the official classroom walkthroughs completed an on-line calibration training & assessment to ensure they were prepared to effectively conduct the classroom walkthroughs
  - The training & assessment is provided by a company called Frontline
  - The calibration assessment is fully aligned to the Danielson Framework for Teaching that all KY Principals must use for teacher evaluations
  - Each year, all leaders that conduct the walkthroughs complete the on-line calibration process to ensure they have retained information about the Domains from the Framework for Teaching
- All official classroom walkthroughs are conducted by using an online program called eWalk
- All walkthroughs will use the eWalk Templates that fully align to Domain 2 & Domain 3 from the Framework for Teaching
  - Domain 2 is focused on Classroom Environment
  - Domain 3 is focused on Instruction
- The Domain 2 template is utilized at the beginning of the year to monitor the classroom culture, relationships, classroom procedures, student behavior, & the physical space within the classrooms
  - Expectations for Domain 2 were given to school leaders in August 2018
- The Domain 3 template began to be used in November 2018 to monitor communication with students, questioning strategies, classroom discussion techniques, student engagement, & the assessments used during instruction
  - Expectations for Domain 3 were given to school leaders in October 2018
  - Domain 3 will continue to be utilized for the remainder of the school year
- If the classroom environment continues to be a growth area for specific teachers, then school leaders will continue to utilize the Domain 2 template for their walkthroughs to continue monitoring progress & providing feedback
- On a monthly basis, district leaders review the walkthrough data with school leaders to discuss the trends & plan next steps for improvement within the school or in specific grades/content areas
- District leaders have been conducting calibration walkthroughs with school leaders to ensure consistency is occurring with the implementation & with feedback to teachers

## Classroom Walkthrough Processes

District & school leaders have reflected on all of the classroom data that's utilized in the district to collect trends, analyze data, & provide feedback to teachers on a regular basis. Although the eWalk templates are used for the official classroom walkthroughs, there are other types of walkthroughs that are conducted within the schools. The following chart contains reflections regarding all types of walkthroughs currently being implemented in the district:

Walkthrough Implementation Processes	
Data Utilized to Identify Trends & Needs	<u>District-wide Practices &amp; Data</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>eWalk templates will be used for official walkthroughs</li><li>Data from walkthroughs will be analyzed on a monthly basis to determine trends &amp; needs of the buildings<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School leaders are expected to share walkthrough data &amp; trends with staff</li></ul></li><li>Feedback from classroom walkthroughs conducted by hired program consultants<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>These walkthroughs assist school leaders in monitoring the implementation of their programs &amp; initiatives</li></ul></li></ul>
	<u>Specific Newport Primary School Data</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NKCES Learning Coach walkthroughs for monitoring school-wide behavior &amp; relationships strategies that were presented at PLC training</li><li>Consultant feedback for Direct Instruction &amp; KAGAN Pilot Teachers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>205 Direct Instruction walkthroughs have been conducted this year</li></ul></li></ul>
	<u>Specific Newport Intermediate School Data</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Academic walkthroughs to monitor the implementation of the academic expectations for NIS</li><li>Safety walkthroughs to monitor the implementation of the safety expectations provided to staff</li><li>Consultant feedback for KAGAN Pilot Teachers &amp; for ST MATH</li></ul>
	<u>Specific Newport High School Data</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Learning Walks are conducted with teachers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A learning walk is scheduled for teachers needing additional assistance</li><li>Teachers are partnered with a school leader to visit model teachers in their area of concern to see good practices in action, reflect on strategies observed, &amp; create next steps for improvement in their own classrooms</li></ul></li><li>Consultant feedback for KAGAN, MATH 180, READ 180, &amp; MyPerspectives</li></ul>

Walkthrough Implementation Processes	
Strategies to Address Specific Needs of Teachers Identified in Walkthroughs	<u>District-wide Processes &amp; Strategies</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teachers are provided feedback on each walkthrough</li> <li>One-on-one meetings with school leaders occur with teachers when an instructional concern is observed that needs immediate work for improvement</li> <li>Mentoring or modeling is provided by the Instructional Coaches in each building when specific instructional areas are a concern of any teachers</li> </ul>
	<u>Additional Newport Primary School Strategies</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School leaders identified 5 Focus Teachers that have a high growth potential but need additional assistance &amp; are provided with additional walkthroughs, feedback, &amp; trainings to assist in their growth</li> <li>Booster meetings, which are additional training after school, are required for teachers that need additional assistance in implementing the Direct Instruction program correctly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walkthroughs from the consultant &amp; the Instructional Coach are used to identify the specific teachers that need to attend the Booster Meetings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<u>Additional Newport Intermediate School Strategies</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Booster meetings are provided for small groups of teachers when the eWalk data indicates that less than ten teachers are in need of a specific training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If walkthrough data indicates that more than ten teachers need training in a specific area, then that is provided during faculty meetings or PLC meetings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<u>Additional Newport High School Strategies</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teachers needing additional assistance are provided Learning Walk opportunities</li> <li>Mentor teachers are provided for all new NHS teachers</li> </ul>

### **Next Steps with Classroom Walkthroughs**

Although district & school leaders have been following the walkthrough expectations, gaps and areas to improve the process have been identified. Some of the next steps that district leaders want to conduct are:

- Continue data analysis to identify Professional Learning needs
- Collaborate with school leaders to clarify the eWalk template elements to ensure a unified understanding of what they look like & sound like in a classroom
- In coordination with school leaders, District Classroom Non-Negotiables will be developed, defined, & implemented to ensure K-12 consistency
- Revise the District Walkthrough Calibration process & schedule to increase effectiveness for 2018-2019
- Investigate & analyze other walkthrough instruments/programs for future use