

What is a Priority Standard?

Prioritized Standards are those that have been identified as most essential to a particular grade level, content area, or course. Although it is still important to teach standards that are not deemed prioritized, teachers devote significant time and resources to ensuring that prioritized standards are mastered.

Heflebower, Tammy, Jan K. Hoegh, Philip B. Warrick, Mitzi Hoback, Margaret McInteer, Bev Clemens, and Robert J. Marzano. A School Leader's Guide to Standards-based Grading. P. 16-19

Criteria for Prioritized Standards

Endurance – Knowledge and skills that will last beyond a class or course.

Leverage – Knowledge and skills that cross over into many domains of learning.

Readiness – Knowledge and skills important to subsequent content or courses

Assessment – Knowledge and skills will be assessed on state or district assessments.

Protocol for Prioritizing Standards

1. Provide each teacher with a set of standards and red, green and yellow highlighters. Individually teachers should read each standard then quickly highlight the standard.
 - a. **Red** is a high priority and meets the criteria of Endurance, Leverage and Readiness (STOP this standard is important)
 - b. **Yellow** is a supporting standard and may meet some of the criteria.
 - c. **Green** is a low priority(GO fast)
2. As a PLC discuss what color each teacher coded the standard and come to consensus for each standard.
 - a. It is helpful to chart these up on a three columned chart paper
3. Vertical discussion with PLCs above and below. Notice and wonder protocol to analyze if there is vertical alignment.
4. Consult state and national assessments to determine if assessments are aligned to priorities.
 - a. [Smarter Balanced ELA Blueprint](#)
 - b. [Smarter Balanced Math Blueprint](#)
 - c. [ACT Standards](#)
 - d. [Achieve the Core Math Focus](#)