

Instructional Dimensions to Consider

Tier 1

- Curriculum
- Instruction
- Social/Emotional Support and Learning

Tier 2

- Assessment
- Scheduling/Staffing
- Student Accountability: Attendance and Grading

Tier 3

- Teacher Expectations
- Teacher Support
- Teacher Collaboration and Teams

Students

Teachers

Leaders

Parents

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Tier 1

- **Curriculum:** What content, skills, standards will we prioritize to teach our students (considering the lost school time from this year)? How do we establish and clarify these adjustments?
- **Instruction:** What methods and practices could we use that will be most impactful to engage our students in learning?
- **Social/Emotional Support and Learning:** How do we tend to our students' human needs and their non-academic personal development?

These are the most essential aspects of an instructional model that need to be considered first - and then continually considered as you move along to the next tiers. If we allow factors from other tiers to supersede these, we run the risk of making decisions that are not in the best interest of student learning.

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Tier 2

- **Assessment:** What will we do to know what students have (and have not yet) learned in a valid, reliable way?
- **Scheduling/Staffing:** Where do adults and students need to be when? Who do/can we have interacting with students and how do we use everyone strategically?
- **Student Accountability: Attendance and Grading:** What ways do we use to promote students' active engagement in their learning, formal or otherwise?

Expect to have a lot of “guidance” around these considerations from the district. But these factors are NOT the most essential to an instructional model, just the most easily turned into policies. It will be up to you to make sense of these factors though and operationalize them in a way that’s meaningful for your school, in a way that is grounded in and supportive of your Tier 1 vision for student learning. Keep this tier all aligned to Tier 1!

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Tier 3

- **Teacher Expectations:** What do we need all teachers to do to ensure the consistent implementation of the instructional model?
- **Teacher Support:** What do we provide teachers to develop them as educators, support them with new demands, enhance and improve the quality of their instructional practice?
- **Teacher Collaboration and Teams:** How do teachers need to interact to promote appropriate coordination and collective efforts across the school?

This is the “stuff” that will fill a large part of your day to day as the instructional leader of your school, but it’s the last layer to consider. Resist jump here too quickly; these should arise logically and coherently from strong considerations at Tier 1 and Tier 2 and keep you well aligned to your broader goals for student learning.