

# Instructional Practices Inventory Protocols

- Observe a typical school day: no unusual circumstances occurring on that day that would disrupt normalcy of the day.  
\*\*Fridays are avoided when possible
- Observers use a map to systematically move throughout the school and observe every class in proportion to all classes.
- Each classroom is observed for a short period of time, typically one to three minutes.
- Observers focus on the students' learning experiences during the first few moments of the observation. Transitions may occur while the observer is in the classroom, but the first learning experience observed is coded.
- Each observation is coded anonymously; IPI observations are should never be used for purposes of teacher evaluation.
- When a learning experience is borderline between two categories, the observer records the category that represents the more favorable learning experience—the profile being created is an “optimum” profile of student learning.
- Classes are not observed (coded) during the first five minutes or the last five minutes of a class at the middle or secondary level or during content transitions at the elementary level.
- One hundred observations per day should be considered a minimum (125-150 is preferred and more typical).
- Special education classes are coded as core or non-core based on the content that is occurring at the time of the observation.
- Classes of substitute teachers are observed and coded but not entered into the profile unless higher-order thinking is evident.
- Classes of student teachers are coded like a regular teacher.