



Getting to Know the WELS Teaching Standards

Standard Five

Activity Guide

Pre-module activity

1. Read the Deci and Moser articles. Motivation and discipline play an important part in school and classroom climate. Consider the articles in the context of how they intersect with school and classroom climate.

Bounce your ideas off a colleague or colleagues. This may be done with an elbow partner, a small group, or in a whole faculty setting. The starting point from which to begin is “What role does motivation and discipline play in school and/or classroom climate?”

After Dr. Klindworth’s introduction to Standard 5

1. Discuss your understanding of Standard 5: Christian teachers know how to create and maintain a Christian learning environment.
2. Set the stage for your work with “Christian learning environment” before the activities. At this point, have a discussion of the “starting point” question above.

Activity One:

Answer these questions as you pause the presentation:

- 1) What makes up our students’ school environment?
- 2) What makes up our students’ classroom environment?

After watching the video and allowing for discussion time (your choice for the discussion format), resume the presentation video.

Activity Two:

Look for answers to these questions as you pause the presentation video:

- 1) SDT (Self-determination Theory) and recent research indicates intrinsic motivation results in deeper more meaningful results. What reasons did the article give?
- 2) Intrinsic goal framing and autonomy-supportive practices require teacher creativity. Consider examples in light of the Holy Spirit’s work as a primary intrinsic motivator for Christians.

After allowing for discussion time (your choice for the discussion format), resume the presentation video.

Activity Three:

Turn to a partner, share, and then come back together for a few minutes of large group/faculty synthesis around:

- 1). How are Lutheran Schools different in the way discipline is carried out?
- 2). Consider “the quiz” and discuss how future classroom environment may be affected?

NOTE: Each faculty members should have a hard copy of the WELS Standard Five Continuum...

Activity Four:

Please take a couple minutes to self-reflect and circle where you feel you fit on the continuum for criteria 1, 2, and 3.

Activity Five:

Please take a couple minutes to again self-reflect and circle where you feel you fit on the continuum for criteria 4, 5, and 6.

Activity Six:

Take a minute to mark your position on the criterion seven continuum and then take about five minutes to share with a faculty colleague why you marked what you did. Share observations with your partner on each other’s reflections.

Moodle Forums (A faculty representative should enter responses to the prompts.)

After completing the Standard 5 activities, share your faculty’s responses to each question in the forums. Identify your school and location in the name of the discussion (Example: St. John, Anytown, MN). Enjoy reading and discussing posts from other school at future inservices/faculty meetings. Delegate a reporter/s to bring back the information.

Forum One: Generate a list of five faculty-generated contributors to school and classroom climate/environment.

Forum Two: Intrinsic goal framing and autonomy-supportive practices require teacher creativity. Consider examples of each in light of the Holy Spirit’s work as a primary intrinsic motivator for Christians. What will you encourage students to do and what do you expect to see as you use intrinsic goal framing and autonomy-supportive practices in your school and classroom?

Forum Three: How are Lutheran Schools are different in the way discipline is carried out? Consider “the quiz” and discuss how your future classroom environment may be affected?

Forum Four: Activities 4, 5, and 6 involved consideration of the Seven Criteria and the continuum specific to each. As you reflect upon the discussions of the criteria and related continuum, share the one place where you, personally plan to begin working on Standard Five and why.

God bless your time and efforts as you consider a true “Christian learning environment.”