# Guidelines & Practices for More Effective Teaching, Learning, and Leading

The following tables contain literature reviews in a bullet-point format. They focus on multiple topics that concern educators daily. If you have questions about any of the tables and the programs that support them, please contact conniekamm@kammsolutions.com.

| General Tables for Teaching, Leading, and Learning | |
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| **Description** | **Table URL** |
| 1. **Equity and Opportunity: Closing the Achievement Gap:** This table provides researched-based facts about the achievement gaps and guidelines for overcoming obstacles that lead to this gap. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Kamm-Solutions_Equity-and-Opportunity_Closing-the-Achievement-Gap.pdf |
| 2. **Personalized Learning and Competency Based Education:** The goal of personalized learning is to increase students' involvement and engagement in their own education while developing skills that are essential to success in any adult setting. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Resources-for-Personalized-Learning_Competency-Based-Education.pdf |
| 3. **Stimulating Creativity:** Students who will have the greatest success in the future are those who can connect seemingly unrelated ideas, who recognize patterns in apparent disorder, who make meaning from that which at first appears meaningless, who see the big picture, and who know how to care, nurture and empathize. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Stimulating-Creativity-in-the-Classroom.pdf |
| 4. **Mindfulness:** Research has shown that students as young as seven who regularly practice mindfulness are gradually able to decrease impulsive and reactive behavior by considering their thoughts and emotions carefully and rationally. Mindfulness has proven to increase the working and visual-spatial memory and sustained attention of students. Mindfulness practices have also directly improved student cognition and performance in the classroom as well. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/UsingMindfulnessintheClassroom-1-2.pdf |
| 5. **Building a Positive School Culture:** A positive school culture allows teachers and administrators to engage in high quality relationships with one another, to see their work as meaningful, and to share and actualize a collective future-focused vision for the school. As a result of a positive school culture, students feel safe and understood and have the space to grow in their learning experiences and perform at their optimum levels. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/FinalBuildingaPositiveSchoolCulture.pdf |
| 6. **Collaborative Teacher-Based Teams:** Teacher-to-teacher collaboration provides professional support for teachers by offering a variety of perspectives, ideas, and strategies to enhance the overall classroom experience for students. Schools that support effective collaborative practices have higher student achievement. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Final-Guidelines-and-Resources-for-CollaborativeTeams.docx-1-1.pdf |
| 7. **Problem/Solution-Based Learning:** The core of Kamm Solution's Collaborative Curriculum Design Model is multidisciplinary, problem/solution based units of study that challenge students to think creatively and critically. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Guidelines-for-Problem-Based-Learning1.pdf |

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| Guidelines for Literacy Practices | |
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| **Description** | **Table URL** |
| 8. **Effective Reading Practices:** In order for students to become more critical consumers of what they read, they need to think and talk about the content, as well as remember and do something meaningful with the information. The practices on this table are not at all an exhaustive list, but they are each effective in helping students become more critical, independent readers. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Increasing-Literacy.pdf |
| 9. **Anchor Texts and Text Sets**: A text set is a collection of sources about a specific topic, theme, or issue. Text sets are often created around an anchor text. Using anchor texts and text sets help students to go deeper in their knowledge. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/ml___Anchor-Text_and_Text_Sets-1-2.pdf |
| 10. **Vocabulary**: Improving students' vocabulary strengthens their reading comprehension and helps them to write and speak more clearly and concisely. The practices in this table are not at all an exhaustive list, but there are some powerful strategies to support students' vocabulary development. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Guidelines-for-Effective-Vocabulary_Practices.pdf |
| 11. **Opinion/Argumentative Writing**: Making a thoughtful, substantiated argument is at the core of critical thinking. The CCSS requirements for argumentative and opinion writing recognize the need for critical thought and guide teachers to refine how they teach students to compose strong, supported pieces of writing. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Guidelines-for-Opinion-and-Argumentative-Writing1-1.pdf |
| 12. **Informative/Explanatory Writing**: Using language to discuss factual ideas in a logical format is a vital skill used in academic, personal, and professional circles. As a result, students are being expected to write informative and explanatory texts that examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Guidelines-for-Informative-Writing.pdf |
| 13. **Narrative Writing:** A narrative in its most basic form is a story. The act of telling stories is a powerful way for people to reflect, connect, and find meaning. In addition, narrative writing is an excellent means to help students refine their composition skills. Narratives also serve as a powerful transition into other forms of writing. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Guidelines-for-Narrative-Writing1.pdf |
| 14. **Writing Across the Curriculum:** Writing across the curriculum is anchored on the belief that writing is a primary method of learning in any discipline and should be implemented across all content areas throughout each student's education. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Writing-Across-the-Curriculum-Nov.-27-2016-1-1.pdf |
| 15. **Writing in Math:** When students write in math classes, explaining a concept or how and why they arrived at an answer, remarkable progress in their understanding occurs and mathematical reasoning skills are bolstered. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/WritingtoLearninMath.pdf |

## Guidelines & Practices for More Effective Teaching, Learning, and Leading

| Guidelines for General Instructional Practices | |
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| **Description** | **Table URL** |
| 16. **Preparing for Learning:** It is essential to prepare students for learning when a new topic or concept is introduced. There are several simple strategies to use to ensure a higher level of readiness for learning. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/InstructionalPracticesPreparingforLearningUpdated.pdf |
| 17. **Learning Through Inquiry:** Effective teachers recognize the need to have a classroom where inquiry is a central part of the daily exchange. Both teachers and students can apply the guidelines for effective questioning on this table. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/InstructionalStrategies_LearningThroughInquiryupdated.pdf |
| 18. **Interactive Techniques:** The practices on this table serve a double purpose: they not only allow teachers to quickly assess what students are gleaning from a class session, but they also provide the means for students to learn the material well. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/ml___InteractiveTechniques-1-2.pdf |
| 19. **Collaborating with Others:** Well-structured student-to-student collaboration is an effective practice to not only engage every student in the classroom, but also to enhance each student's comprehension of the material. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Student-Collaboration.pdf |
| 20. **Organizing Thinking:** Teaching students strategies for finding patterns and relationships, note taking, and reflection will enhance, refine, and clarify what they are learning. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Organizing-Your-Thinking.pdf |
| 21. **Digital Tools:** Successfully navigating and implementing the myriad of available digital resources designed for classroom teachers is well worth the effort. Digital tools enhance strong instructional methodology. They also engage students and extend learning. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Guidelines-for-Using-Digital-Tools-in-the-Classroom.pdf<br><br>**Cool Tools for Schools** |
| 22. **Providing and Receiving Feedback:** Feedback is information about how one is doing in an effort to meet a goal. It is not an evaluation or advice; rather, effective feedback is a dialogue, not one-way communication. Feedback occurs in day-to-day encounters with the intent of reducing the gap between where a person is currently performing and where that person is striving to perform. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Guidelines-on-Effective-Feedback.pdf |
| 23. **ELL Go-To Strategies:** Note the matrix on page 19, the tables beginning on page 29, and the glossary of strategies beginning on page 66. | http://kammsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/ELL_go-to-strategies.pdf |
| 24. **Strategies for Teachers to Use with Special Needs Students:** This website contains clear explanations and specific strategies that help teachers support learners with special needs. | http://www.strategies4busyteachers.com/ |