

Teachscape Observation and Evaluation Tools

THE ESSENTIALS

of High-Stakes Classroom Observation





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OF HIGH-STAKES CLASSROOM OBSERVATION

A task as demanding and complex as teaching requires powerful and sophisticated tools to be accurately evaluated.

In today's world, where federal mandates require that teacher evaluations carry consequences—promotions, pay, and tenure can now depend upon them—the observation process and the data generated from it must be fair, reliable, defensible, and valid.

Classroom observations are the backbone of any teacher evaluation system. Many states now require multiple observations to accurately and credibly assess teaching quality. And, they recognize how crucial observer training is to a complete evaluation system. Teachscape's web-based Framework for Teaching Proficiency System for classroom observers helps school districts improve the rigor and integrity of the observation process.

Teachscape's *Reflect* software

system facilitates the classroom observation process and uses classroom data collected in person or via video to help teachers take ownership of their own development. Teaching portfolios are maintained within the system and play an essential role in credibly and fairly assessing teaching effectiveness. *Reflect's* reporting capabilities enable administrators to view individual and district-wide strengths and weaknesses and target professional learning initiatives.



Classroom teaching is perhaps the most complex, most challenging, and most demanding, subtle, nuanced, and frightening activity that our species has ever invented. The only time a physician could possibly encounter a situation of comparable complexity would be in the emergency room of a hospital during or after a natural disaster.”

Lee Shulman

President Emeritus, The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching
Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education Emeritus, Stanford University

FAIR. RELIA

Constructive and Fair Classroom Observations Require Accurate and Reliable Observers

The success of any classroom observation system ultimately depends on the accuracy and reliability of the individuals responsible for observing and evaluating teachers. In classroom observations, accuracy and reliability are not synonymous. Multiple observers can agree about a teacher's performance, and all may be wrong.

Partnered with Charlotte Danielson and ETS

Teachscape's Framework for Teaching Proficiency System was born out of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Measures of Effective Teaching (MET) project and was developed in partnership with Charlotte Danielson and Educational Testing Service (ETS).

Teachscape and its partners have developed a version of the

Proficiency System, designed to help districts train and test observers to accurately apply the Framework for Teaching to teaching practice.

Self-Paced and Online

Our web-based Proficiency System's training tools help prepare observers to accurately differentiate between the various performance levels of teaching set forth in Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching. The core of the training system is a



**Teachscape
Framework for
Teaching
Proficiency
System**

BLE. VALID.

comprehensive library of over 100 master-scored videos of authentic classroom practice covering English language arts, math, science, and social studies across grades K–12 that have been pre-scored and annotated by ETS-trained experts. The video library provides examples of teaching at all proficiency levels and includes benchmark and rangefinder videos.

The training program includes scoring practice and is rich with interactive tools, dynamic assessment, and ap-

plication activities tied to the master-scored videos. Learning modules include instruction on bias awareness, building common expectations, evaluating evidence, and scoring.

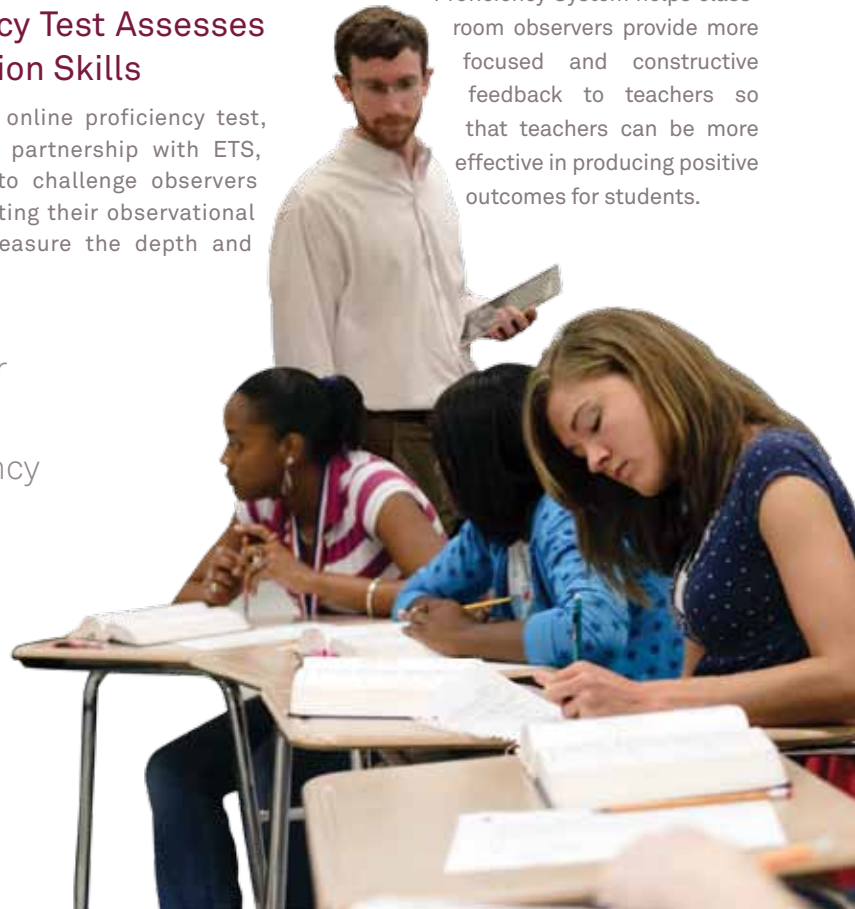
Proficiency Test Assesses Observation Skills

Teachscape's online proficiency test, developed in partnership with ETS, is designed to challenge observers in demonstrating their observational skills and measure the depth and

application of knowledge in rendering accurate judgments.

More targeted feedback can result in more effective teaching. Teachscape's Proficiency System helps classroom observers provide more focused and constructive feedback to teachers so that teachers can be more effective in producing positive outcomes for students.

- Over 100 master-scored videos and over 15 hours of observer training
- Master-scored videos cover all proficiency ranges across grades K–12
- Includes proficiency analysis and test passage rate reporting



MANAGEABLE

Easy-to-Use Tools Improve Quality and Efficiency

Teachscape's suite of classroom observation and evaluation software tools—*Reflect Live*, *Reflect Video*, and *Teachscape Walk*—supports the implementation of a robust, flexible, user-friendly system to meet your specific needs.

Dramatic Rise in Teacher Evaluations Expected

Each of Teachscape's observation tools utilizes industry-leading data collection and reporting technology, produces targeted

feedback, and increases the manageability and scalability of the observation collection process. Administrators can look at aggregated results across a school or an entire district or pull up individual reports. With all data stored on a single secure platform and retrievable from almost any Internet-capable device, access to important observation data is easy.

As states and districts mandate more frequent classroom observations, data management is more important than ever. Under the new mandates, a district with 5,000 teachers

may be required to conduct 20,000 distinct observations each year! Even the best filing system for the traditional “pen-and-paper” observations can't handle this capacity.

Our research-based observation software can support any instructional framework for measuring teaching effectiveness.

Reflect System for Video and In-Class Observation

Replacing traditional paper forms with secure technology, *Reflect Live* makes in-person classroom observations



E. FLEXIBLE.

Efficiency of Observation Process

is more efficient for both observers and teachers. Use any Internet-connected tablet device or laptop to schedule and plan observations, organize supporting materials and lesson artifacts, collect and arrange observation notes and data, and align evidence with a framework. *Reflect Live* mirrors the traditional observation process using 21st-century technology.

It's not just filing systems that will buckle under the strain of 20,000 classroom observations a year, but also administrators. *Reflect Video*

enables observations to be done remotely, without observers having to travel to classrooms throughout a district. *Reflect Video* allows multiple trained observers to score the same lesson, providing an opportunity to calibrate observers for reliability and increasing the defensibility of results. *Reflect Video* also enables a district to build its own proprietary library of district-wide best practices.

Classroom Walkthroughs for Progress Monitoring

Based on feedback from high-stakes observations, *Teachscape Walk* helps

administrators identify and track teachers' efforts to improve in specific areas of their practice. Administrators can select focus areas and look for, using *Walk's* industry-leading reporting options, monitor trends in performance and engage teacher teams in reflective dialogue.



MEASURABLE

Powerful Reporting Tools for More Focused Professional Development

Observation Systems Must Yield Actionable Feedback

An observation system has no value if it fails to yield actionable feedback with which districts can make better decisions, leading to improving the effectiveness of their teachers.

Teachscape's reporting tools are designed to help administrators provide that kind of targeted feedback. Using Teachscape's Proficiency System in concert with the

evaluation and observation tools—*Reflect Live*, *Reflect Video*, and *Teachscape Walk*—districts can provide focused feedback that can be tracked back to specific classroom observations.

Track Your District's Observation Outcomes

Districts can track observation outcomes at the individual and aggregate level relative to the instructional framework.



“ The intent of a classroom observation system should be about increasing teacher engagement and professional collaboration and about using more focused feedback to improve student outcomes.”

—Cindy Tocci, Ph.D.
Sr. Director, Research, ETS

. ACTIONABLE.

Teachscape *Reflect Live* and *Reflect Video* can produce frequent progress reports that help teachers, observers, and administrators measure teaching effectiveness over time. Based on these data, administrators can identify individual, school-wide, and district-wide strengths and weaknesses.

District-wide system usage reports monitor the evaluation program's progress relative to goals. Administrators can confidently rely on the Teachscape *Reflect*

system to help make smart decisions about the professional learning that will be most effective in their district.

Empower Teachers for Better Results

Ultimately, an effective classroom observation and teaching evaluation system needs to strengthen teaching practice and improve outcomes for

children. For optimal outcomes, a system of observation should encourage a reflective and collaborative culture of improvement. With Teachscape's tools, teachers are active participants in the observation process and can easily track their own observations and performance to identify the right professional learning path to support their development.



Professional Learning and Support from an Industry Leader

Online Learning Since 1999

Teachscape has partnered with educators since 1999. Our goal has always been to help teachers maximize their effectiveness to inspire diverse learners to achieve to the highest standards. To accomplish this, we work with the best experts in the field to provide research-based professional learning and development for teachers. We're honored that educators in over 2,000 districts have trusted us to do this, using over 2,500 classroom videos covering 40 topics from our award-winning, online Professional Learning Suite.

Comprehensive Support

To help schools and districts make the most of Teachscape's observation tools and learning resources, we offer comprehensive online and in-school professional services. Teachscape service providers are experienced Pre-K–12 educators. All have been effective classroom teachers. Most have been principals or assistant principals, and many have been district-level curriculum leaders, professional developers, and senior district administrators.

Teachscape services can spark a transformative change in instructional leadership and teaching practice, improve school and teacher effectiveness, and maximize student achievement.

Both our professional development and our evaluation and observation systems—*Reflect Live*, *Reflect Video*, and *Teachscape Walk*—have won numerous awards.



Teachscape Tools

for Improving Teaching Effectiveness

Training in Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching

- **Proficiency System for Observers** – training and test for classroom observers
- **Teacher Training** – online training module to enhance teacher knowledge of the Framework

Classroom Observation and Evaluation Tools

- **Teachscape *Walk*** – for brief, focused classroom walkthroughs
- **Teachscape *Reflect Live*** – for in-depth, formal classroom observation
- **Teachscape *Reflect Video*** – for video observation and for video-based learning communities

Online Training Professional Learning Suite

- On-demand access to professional development resources that include research-based multimedia content libraries and authentic classroom videos. Includes more than 40 topics and over 2,500 videos.

To find out how Teachscape can help you, call 877.98.TEACH, or visit our website at www.teachscape.com





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