USE OF RUBRICS AS AN ASSESSMENT TOOL

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The assessment tool to be used for the K to 12 program is indicated as an enclosure to DepEd Order No. 31 s.2012. It is stated under its philosophy that assessment shall be used primarily as a quality assurance tool to track student progress in the attainment of standards, promote self-protection and personal accountability to one’s learning and provide a bases for profiling of student’s performance.

Under the nature and purpose of assessment it states that assessment shall be holistic with emphasis on the formative or developmental purpose of quality assuring student’s learning. It is also standards based as it seeks to ensure that teachers will teach to the standards and students will aim to meet or even exceed to standards. The student’s attainment of standards in term of content and performance is therefore a critical evidence of learning.

In K to 12, an alternative form of assessment is used. Although traditional type can also be used, Rubrics can be considered as an alternative form of assessment that makes clear what distinguishes good and poor results, usually by providing samples of results at different levels of excellence. Rubrics thereby classify for students what is required to succeed. Student’s goal then tends to be more precise and their work more focused. In general, research has shown that when feedbacks on student’s work is based on rubrics, students learn more from their mistakes than when work is merely graded A, B, C (Crooks, Willouin and Felps).

From teacher’s point of view, one can say that rubrics are most helpful when discussed before work is begun. Some additional suggestions for teachers:

1. **Use rubrics in grading one another's work.** This will help for students better understand how rubrics can be used to guide their own work.
2. **Use rubrics to avoid writing too many comments about each other's work especially in a project.** They give the students and the parents a clear picture of what was done well and what needs to be improved. Grading each other’s project will be easier. The use of rubrics as an assessment tool is a welcome move.

Sample rubrics for homework:

- **4** - The student completes homework and meets or exceeds the explanations of the assignment. The student uses comments on homework to improve future work
- **3** - The student completes homework and meets all expectation for the assignment. The student seeks to understand the purpose of the assignment.
- **2** - The student's homework is incomplete. The student does little to understand the purpose of the assignment.
- **1** - The student does little to understand the purpose of the assignment.
0 - Not enough information to make a judgment.

Reference:
Policy Guidelines On The Implementation Of Grades 1 To 10 Of The K To 12 Basic Education Curriculum (Bec) Effective School Year 2012-2013
ret. January 15, 2014

Merrill Harmin, Melanie Toth “Inspiring Active Learning, a complete handbook for today’s teacher.” Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.