

Texas Resource Review (TRR)

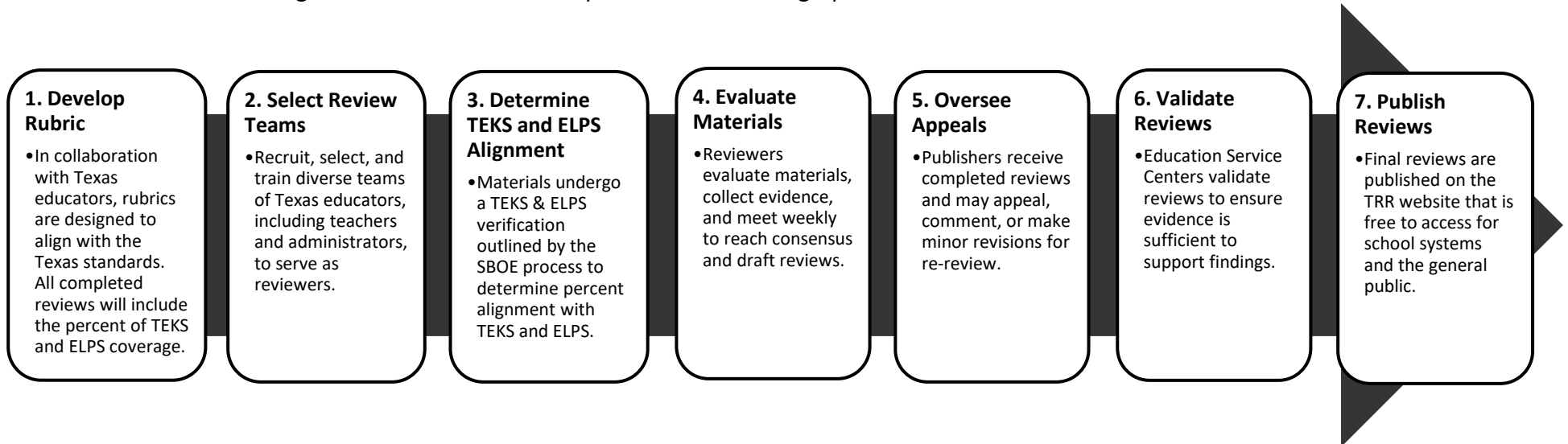
English Language Arts and Reading 3 – 8

Top performers in many fields note that the best way to increase productivity is to improve tools. For Texas school districts and schools, this means selecting high-quality instructional materials is critical to improving student achievement. This notion is backed by a growing body of research showing that using high-quality instructional materials is one of the most successful and cost-effective ways to improve student outcomes. Districts often find that determining the quality of materials that are the best fit for their students is a time intensive and uncertain process. This leaves many districts asking, “How can we give our classrooms better resources?”

To help districts answer this question, in 2017, the Texas legislature instructed the Texas Education Agency to facilitate an independent analysis of the quality of instructional materials (Texas Education Code § 31.081 and § 31.082). This process, called the Texas Resource Review (TRR), will empower and strengthen local decision-making and make it easier for educators at all levels to attend to the specific, unique needs of their students. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will have complete autonomy to decide if and how they use the reviews as part of their local review and adoption processes.

Overview of the Process

A series of steps will be completed to ensure reviews provide districts with clear, transparent, and user-friendly information about the quality of instructional materials. A high-level overview of the steps is included in the graphic below:

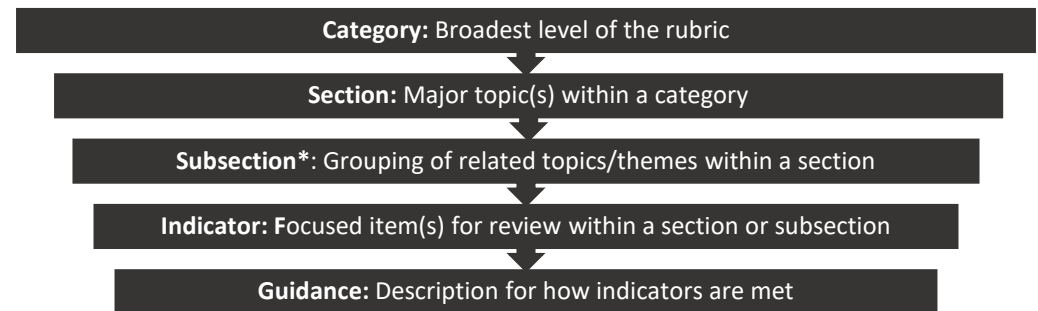


Overview of the Rubric Design

Rubric Structure

The rubric is arranged by category, section, subsection, indicator, and guidance. The categories are the broadest level of the rubric and serve as its foundation. Within each category are nested sections, subsections, indicators, and guidance that provide additional details and greater clarity for review items.

*Note: Not all sections contain subsections



Categories

The rubric's categories inform LEAs about essential components of instructional material products.

Category	Description
State Board of Education (SBOE) Review	This category focuses on the SBOE's TEKS and ELPS alignment review of instructional materials. The TRR compliments the SBOE review process and presents its results in the overall quality report. The SBOE review process results in a percentage of TEKS and ELPS coverage and establishes if materials meet or do not meet requirements for state adoption.
Content and Instructional Concepts	This category focus on how well standards are addressed by instructional materials. Sections within this category evaluate guidance for effective teaching and learning specific to the content.
Educator Supports	This category focuses on aspects of instructional materials that directly relate to tools and resources for supporting instruction. Sections within this category focus on the guidance and support students and educators need to ensure all students learn and succeed.
Additional Information	This category provides information on technology, cost, professional learning, and additional language supports as shared by the publisher.

Reviewers will navigate through the rubric based on the categories below and focus on sections within each category to evaluate the quality of instructional materials.

**STATE BOARD OF
EDUCATION
(SBOE) REVIEW
PROCESS**

1

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) Alignment

**CONTENT AND
INSTRUCTIONAL
CONCEPTS**

2

Texts

3

Literacy Practices and Text Interactions

4

Developing and Sustaining Foundational Literacy Skills*

*Not Applicable for Grades 6-8

**EDUCATOR
SUPPORT**

5

Supports for All Learners

6

Implementation

**ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION**

7.1

Technology

7.2

Cost

7.3

Professional Learning

7.4

Additional Language Supports

Scoring Methodology

Quality evaluations are intended to support LEAs in making decisions that best meet their local context. To provide LEAs clear, transparent, and user-friendly information, instructional materials are scored points at the indicator level and then totaled for the section. A percentage score is calculated based on the points awarded for each section. Each score value is supported by evidence collected, the evidence is published in final reports. Sections within the rubric are scored based on the table below.

ELAR Grades 3 – 5 Scoring

The following provides an overview of the scoring methodology proposed to support LEAs in their review, adoption, and purchasing decisions.

Category	Section	Number of Indicators	Total Possible Points	Display on Report
SBOE Review Process	1. TEKS and ELPS Alignment	N/A	Meets/Does Not Meet SBOE Criteria	%TEKS % ELPS
Content and Instructional Concepts	2. Texts	3 indicators	12 points	% of total section points
	3. Literacy Practices and Text Interactions	13 indicators	46 points	% of total section points
	4. Developing and Sustaining Foundational Skills	3 indicators	12 points	% of total section points
Educator Support	5. Supports for All Learners	3 indicators	6 points	% of total section points
	6. Implementation	5 indicators	8 points	% of total section points
Additional Information	7. Additional Information: Technology, Cost, Professional Learning, and Additional Language Supports	N/A	No point value	Information Provided

ELAR Grades 6 – 8 Scoring

The following provides an overview of the scoring methodology proposed to support LEAs in their review, adoption, and purchasing decisions.

Category	Section	Number of Indicators	Total Possible Points	Display on Report
SBOE Review Process	1. TEKS and ELPS Alignment	N/A	Meets/Does Not Meet SBOE Criteria	%TEKS % ELPS
Content and Instructional Concepts	2. Texts	3 indicators	12 points	% of total section points
	3. Literacy Practices and Text Interactions	12 indicators	45 points	% of total section points
	4. Developing and Sustaining Foundational Skills	N/A	N/A	% of total section points
Educator Support	5. Supports for All Learners	3 indicators	6 points	% of total section points
	6. Implementation	5 indicators	8 points	% of total section points
Additional Information	7. Additional Information: Technology, Cost, Professional Learning, and Additional Language Supports	N/A	No point value	Information Provided

1 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and English Language Proficiency Standards Alignment

State review panel members review instructional materials to determine the extent to which the TEKS and ELPS are covered and to identify factual errors. To be eligible for adoption, instructional materials must meet at least 50% of the TEKS and 100% of the required ELPS in the **components intended for student use** and the **components intended for teacher use**, be free from factual error, meet manufacturing specifications, be suitable for the intended course and grade level, and be reviewed by academic experts. The review results in four outputs related to the percentage of TEKS and ELPS present in materials designed for teacher and student use as seen below: Student TEKS, Teacher TEKS, Student ELPS, and Teacher ELPS. **All** materials must be reviewed for TEKS & ELPS Alignment.

Category	Student TEKS	Teacher TEKS	Student ELPS	Teacher ELPS
Does Not Meet SBOE Requirement	<50%	<50%	<100%	<100%
Meets Minimum SBOE Requirement	50-79%	50-79%	100%	100%
TEA Recommended Percentages	80%+	80%+	100%	100%

2 Texts (what students read, see, and hear)

Materials must include a wide variety and range of high-quality literary and informational texts that are appropriately challenging for the grade.

Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
2.1	Materials include high-quality texts for ELAR instruction and cover a range of student interests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The texts are well-crafted, representing the quality of content, language, and writing that is produced by experts in various disciplines. • Materials include increasingly complex traditional, contemporary, classical, and diverse texts. 	0/2/4
2.2	Materials include a variety of text types and genres across content that meet the requirements of the TEKS for each grade level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text types must include those outlined for specific grades by the TEKS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Literary texts must include those outlined for specific grades. ○ Informational texts include texts of information, exposition, argument, procedures, and documents as outlined in the TEKS. • Materials include print and graphic features of a variety of texts. 	0/2/4
2.3	Texts are appropriately challenging and are at an appropriate level of complexity to support students at their grade level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texts are accompanied by a text-complexity analysis provided by the publisher. • Texts are at the appropriate quantitative levels and qualitative features for the grade level. 	0/2/4
Grades 3 – 5 Total Points Possible:			12
Grades 6 – 8 Total Points Possible:			12

3 Literacy Practices and Text Interactions

Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Thinking, Inquiry, and Research

Materials include instruction and practice for the grade and grade-band-specific skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking. Materials provide questions and tasks for students to both develop and deepen comprehension of texts and topics. Students demonstrate grade-level literacy skills through reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking opportunities that require use of text evidence for response. Materials contain interconnected questions and tasks that build student knowledge. Tasks integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking (including components of vocabulary, syntax, and fluency, as needed) and provide opportunities for increased independence.

3.A Reading: Questions and Tasks

Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
3.A.1	Materials contain questions and tasks that support students in analyzing and integrating knowledge, ideas, themes, and connections within and across texts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most questions and tasks build conceptual knowledge, are text-specific/dependent, target complex elements of the texts, and integrate multiple TEKS. • Questions and tasks require students to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ make connections to personal experiences, other texts, and the world around them and ○ identify and discuss important big ideas, themes, and details. 	0/2/4
3.A.2	Materials contain questions and tasks that require students to analyze the language, key ideas, details, craft, and structure of individual texts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions and tasks support students' analysis of the literary/textual elements of texts by asking students to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ analyze, make inferences, and draw conclusions about the author's purpose in cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding; ○ compare and contrast the stated or implied purposes of different authors' writing on the same topic; ○ analyze the author's choices and how they influence and communicate meaning (in single and across a variety of texts); and ○ ask students to study the language within texts to support their understanding. 	0/2/4

3.A.3	Materials include a cohesive, year-long plan for students to interact with and build key academic vocabulary in and across texts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials include a year-long plan for building academic vocabulary, including ways to apply words in appropriate contexts. Materials include scaffolds and supports for teachers to differentiate vocabulary development for all learners. 	0/2/4
3.A.4	Materials include a clearly defined plan to support and hold students accountable as they engage in independent reading .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procedures and/or protocols, along with adequate support for teachers, are provided to foster independent reading. Materials provide a plan for students to self-select texts and read independently for a sustained period of time, including planning and accountability for achieving independent reading goals. 	0/1

3.B Writing

	Indicator	Guidance	Scoring
3.B.1	Materials provide support for students to develop composition skills across multiple text types for a variety of purposes and audiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials provide students opportunities to write literary texts to express their ideas and feelings about real or imagined people, events, and ideas. Materials provide students opportunities to write informational texts to communicate ideas and information to specific audiences for specific purposes. Materials provide students opportunities to write argumentative texts to influence the attitudes or actions of a specific audience on specific issues. Materials provide students opportunities to write correspondence in a professional or friendly structure. 	0/2/4
3.B.2	Most written tasks require students to use clear and concise information and well-defended text-supported claims to demonstrate the knowledge gained through analysis and synthesis of texts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials provide opportunities for students to use evidence from texts to support their opinions and claims. Materials provide opportunities for students to demonstrate in writing what they have learned through reading and listening to texts. 	0/2/4

3.B.3	Over the course of the year, composition convention skills are applied in increasingly complex contexts, with opportunities for students to publish their writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials facilitate students' coherent use of the elements of the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing) to compose text. Materials provide opportunities for practice and application of the conventions of academic language when speaking and writing, including punctuation and grammar. Grammar, punctuation, and usage are taught systematically, both in and out of context, and materials provide editing practice in students' own writing as the year continues. 	0/2/4
3.B.4	Materials include practice for students to write legibly in cursive . (Grades 3-5 only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials include instruction in cursive handwriting for students in the appropriate grade(s). Materials include a plan for procedures and supports for teachers to assess students' handwriting development. 	0/1

3.C Speaking and Listening

Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
3.C.1	Materials support students' listening and speaking about texts .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking and listening opportunities are focused on the text(s) being studied in class, allowing students to demonstrate comprehension. Most oral tasks require students to use clear and concise information and well-defended text-supported claims to demonstrate the knowledge gained through analysis and synthesis of texts. 	0/2/4
3.C.2	Materials engage students in productive teamwork and in student-led discussions , in both formal and informal settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials provide guidance and practice with grade-level protocols for discussion to express their own thinking. Materials provide opportunities for students to give organized presentations/performances and speak in a clear and concise manner using the conventions of language. 	0/2/4

3.D Inquiry and Research			
Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
3.D.1	Materials engage students in both short-term and sustained recursive inquiry processes to confront and analyze various aspects of a topic using relevant sources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials support identification and summary of high-quality primary and secondary sources. Materials support student practice in organizing and presenting their ideas and information in accordance with the purpose of the research and the appropriate grade level audience. 	0/2/4
3.E Integration of ELAR Skills			
Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
3.E.1	Materials contain interconnected tasks that build student knowledge and provide opportunities for increased independence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions and tasks are designed to help students build and apply knowledge and skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking, and language. Materials contain a coherently sequenced set of high-quality, text-dependent questions and tasks that require students to analyze the integration of knowledge and ideas within individual texts as well as across multiple texts. Tasks integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking; include components of vocabulary, syntax, and fluency, as needed; and provide opportunities for increased independence. 	0/2/4
3.E.2	Materials provide spiraling and scaffolded practice .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials support distributed practice over the course of the year. Design includes scaffolds for students to demonstrate integration of literacy skills that spiral over the school year. 	0/2/4
			Grades 3 – 5 Total Points Possible:
			46
			Grades 6 – 8 Total Points Possible:
			45

4 Developing and Sustaining Foundational Literacy Skills (Grades 3 – 5 Only)

Materials follow a sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the TEKS while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills.

Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
4.1	Materials provide systematic instruction and practice of foundational skills, including opportunities for phonics and word analysis skills (e.g., examination of grade-level prefixes and suffixes, decoding of multisyllabic words by using syllabication, and automaticity with grade-level regular and irregular spelling patterns).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials include a research-based sequence of grade-level foundational skills instruction and opportunities for sufficient student practice to achieve grade-level mastery. Materials systematically develop knowledge of grade-level phonics patterns and word analysis skills as delineated in the TEKS for grades 3-5. Materials provide opportunities for students to practice grade-level word recognition skills to promote automaticity. Materials provide opportunities for students to practice and apply word analysis skills both in and out of context. Materials include building spelling knowledge as identified in the TEKS. Materials specifically attend to supporting students in need of effective remediation. 	0/2/4
4.2	Materials include diagnostic tools and provide opportunities to assess student mastery, in and out of context, at regular intervals for teachers to make instructional adjustments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials include tools to support and direct teachers to assess students' growth in, and mastery of, foundational skills (e.g., skill gaps in phonics and decoding) both in and out of context. Materials support teachers with guidance and direction to respond to individual students' literacy needs, based on tools and assessments appropriate to the grade level. Materials support the teacher in working with students to self-monitor, use context to confirm or self-correct understanding, and employ rereading when appropriate. 	0/2/4

<p>4.3</p>	<p>Materials provide frequent opportunities for students to practice and develop oral and silent reading fluency while reading a wide variety of grade-appropriate texts at the appropriate rate with accuracy and expression to support comprehension.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials provide students opportunities to read grade-level texts as they make meaning and build foundational skills. • Materials include explicit instruction in fluency, including phrasing, intonation, expression, and accuracy. • Materials provide opportunities and routines for teachers to regularly monitor and provide corrective feedback on phrasing, intonation, expression, and accuracy. 	<p>0/2/4</p>
			<p>Grades 3 – 5 Total Points Possible: 12</p>
			<p>Grades 6 – 8 Total Points Possible: N/A</p>

5 Supports for All Learners

Materials provide guidance and support that help teachers meet the diverse learning needs of all students.

Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
5.1	Materials include supports for students who demonstrate proficiency above grade-level .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials provide planning and learning opportunities (including extensions and differentiation) for students who demonstrate literacy skills above that expected at the grade level. 	0/1/2
5.2	Materials include supports for students who perform below grade-level to ensure they are meeting the grade level literacy standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials provide planning and learning opportunities (including extensions and differentiation) for students who demonstrate literacy skills below that expected at the grade level. 	0/1/2
5.3	Materials include supports for English Learners (EL) to meet grade-level learning expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials must include accommodations for linguistics (communicated, sequenced, and scaffolded) commensurate with various levels of English language proficiency as defined by the ELPs. Materials provide scaffolds such as adapted text, translations, native language support, cognates, summaries, pictures, realia, glossaries, bilingual dictionaries, thesauri, and other modes of comprehensible input. Materials encourage strategic use of students' first language as a means to linguistic, affective, cognitive, and academic development in English (e.g., to enhance vocabulary development). Vocabulary is developed in the context of connected discourse. 	0/1/2
Grades 3 – 5 Total Points Possible:			6
Grades 6 – 8 Total Points Possible:			6

6 Implementation

Ease of Use and Supports for Implementation

Materials provide support for implementation including clear and easy-to-follow guidance and support for teachers.

Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
6.1	Materials include assessment and guidance for teachers and administrators to monitor progress including how to interpret and act on data yielded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formative and summative assessments are aligned in purpose, intended use, and TEKS emphasis. Assessments and scoring information provide sufficient guidance for interpreting and responding to student performance. Assessments are connected to the regular content to support student learning. 	0/1/2
6.2	Materials include year-long plans and supports for teachers to identify needs of students and provide differentiated instruction to meet the needs of a range of learners to ensure grade-level success.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials provide an overarching year-long plan for teachers to engage students in multiple grouping (and other) structures. Plans are comprehensive and attend to differentiation to support students via many learning opportunities. Teacher edition materials include annotations and support for engaging students in the materials, as well as support for implementing ancillary and resource materials and student progress components. Annotations and ancillary materials provide support for student learning and assistance for teachers. 	0/1/2
6.3	Materials include implementation support for teachers and administrators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials are accompanied by a TEKS-aligned scope and sequence outlining the essential knowledge and skills that are taught in the program, the order in which they are presented, and how knowledge and skills build and connect across grade levels. Materials include additional supports to help teachers implement the materials as intended. Materials include additional supports to help administrators support teachers in implementing the materials as intended. Materials include a school years' worth of literacy instruction, including realistic pacing guidance and routines and support for both 180-day and 220-day schedules. 	0/1/2

6.4	The visual design of the student edition (whether in print or digital) is neither distracting nor chaotic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials include appropriate use of white space and design that supports and does not distract from student learning. • Pictures and graphics are supportive of student learning and engagement without being visually distracting. 	0/1/2
6.5	If present, technology components included are appropriate for grade level students and provide support for learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology, if present, supports and enhances student learning as appropriate, as opposed to distracting from it, and includes appropriate teacher guidance. 	NOT SCORED
Total Points Possible:			8

7 Additional Information

The following information will appear on the Texas Resource Review website, providing additional information about the set of materials being reviewed.

Indicator		Guidance	Scoring
7.1	Technology components are identified per the information requirement checklist.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology checklist is completed. 	NOT SCORED
7.2	Cost worksheet completed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost worksheet is completed. 	NOT SCORED
7.3	Professional learning opportunities meet criteria for implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional learning indicators built by TEA. 	NOT SCORED
7.4	Additional language supports worksheet completed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional language worksheet is completed. 	NOT SCORED
Total Points Possible:			N/A

Note: TEA is currently developing a Glossary of Terms and Supporting Research List for each newly developed rubric. As part of the development process, TEA will work in coordination with relevant educator associations and councils to gather input and feedback.