The *CPS Framework for Teaching* guides teacher practice inside and outside the classroom. School-based leadership, principals and assistant principals, are Illinois State Board of Education-certified evaluators, and they manage all observations for their staff.

**There are two types of observations:**

* A **Formal Observation** is a pre-planned classroom visit that lasts for an entire class period or lesson. The educator and evaluator meet before and after the observation to talk about the educator's planning and preparation, classroom environment, instruction, and professional responsibilities outside the classroom. During the visit, evaluators collect evidence about the classroom environment and instruction. A Formal Observation produces ratings in all four [*CPS Framework for Teaching*](https://cps.edu/ReachStudents/Documents/FrameworkForTeaching.pdf) domains.
* An **Informal Observation** is an unannounced visit and lasts at least 15 minutes. During the visit, the evaluator collects evidence about the classroom environment and instruction. An Informal Observation produces ratings in only two *CPS Framework for Teaching* domains: classroom environment and instruction.

Found: <https://cps.edu/ReachStudents/Pages/ProfessionalPractice.aspx>

Note: A former economist, Charlotte Danielson, created the [original model](https://www.danielsongroup.org/framework/)

In addition, CPS teachers are evaluated on “[student growth](https://cps.edu/ReachStudents/Pages/StudentGrowth.aspx),” measured in two ways...performance tasks (student test scores at the beginning and end of the year) and value-added. Value-added scores are determined by different tests in different grades.... “for teacher evaluation, Value-Added measures growth at the school and teacher level using the [Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test](https://www.nwea.org/assessments/map/) given in grades 2–8 and the [ACT Educational Planning and Assessment (EPAS)](http://www.act.org/epas/) given in grades 9–11.” <link is broken for EPAS>

Found: <https://cps.edu/ReachStudents/Pages/StudentGrowth.aspx>