Big Idea/Topic
Morning Greetings

Georgia Standards of Excellence Alignment

Health Standard 4: Students will demonstrate the ability to use interpersonal communication skills to enhance health and avoid or reduce health risks

Teacher Keys Effectiveness System (TKES) Alignment

Standard 7 - Positive Learning Environment: The teacher provides a well-managed, safe, and orderly environment that is conducive to learning and encourages respect for all.
Standard 10 - Communication: The teacher communicates effectively with students, parents or guardians, district and school personnel, and other stakeholders in ways that enhance student learning.

Instructional Design

Define Simply
Morning/Beginning of Class Greeting is when the teacher stands at the door and greets students as they enter the classroom. Greeting students at the door helps students feel welcome, connected to their teacher, and builds positive relationships.

Model/Demonstrate with Examples
Ask students how they would like to be greeted in the morning. The teacher can show them some examples and enjoy practicing with them. Ex: wave, fist bump, hug, handshake, high five, and dance party.

Practice in All Relevant Settings
Take students into the hallway to practice as if they were arriving. Have a poster outside your door with any greeting options you plan to provide. Students can tap the chart on the way in the door to pick their greeting. Video Example Practice with students daily until this becomes routine.

Monitor & Provide Positive Feedback and Reinforcement
Especially at the beginning, praise students, and encourage them to participate in the morning greeting. This will help students feel connected to the teacher and contribute to positive well-being.
## Based on Data, Adjust Instruction & Reteach

If an individual student does not want to greet at any point in the year, something may be wrong. Make sure to respond with empathy and find a quiet moment to ask them what happened. If several students do not want to greet, it may be beneficial to reteach and practice with feedback.

### Evidence of Student Success

- 80% or more of students should participate and engage in morning greetings each day without any additional verbal or nonverbal prompting from the teacher.
- For students to be successful, teachers need to be at the door before they arrive.

### Student Learning Supports

- This is a universal lesson plan and an effective practice used for struggling students in the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) process.
- Some students may need additional support or scaffolding. Consider adapting for the individual needs of the student.
- Morning greeting can be adapted for online lessons by using the chat box or emoji options.

### Engaging Families

- Teachers can send a copy of the greeting choices home for families to use to practice greetings.
- Parents can talk with their child about how it feels to be positively greeted by their teacher each morning.
- Students can complete a journal entry at home and share with family members about their favorite greeting(s) and why.