Tool-Using R.E.A.L. to identify Essential Standards

One of the first steps collaborative teams take is to identify a small handful of essential outcomes to study together. Use this handout to determine if a standard that you are considering is truly "essential".

Step 1:

Standard we are considering for this unit:				
Now, rate the standard w	e are considering against t	the following criteria.		
Criteria:		Description	Your Rating	
R.	Readiness	How important is this standard for student success in the same subject in the next grade level?		
E.	Endurance	How important is this standard for student success long after they have left school?		
A.	Assessed	How important is this standard for student success on end of grade exams		
L	Leverage	How important is this standard for student success in multiple subject areas?		
IS THIS STANDARD R				

Next, annotate the essential standard(s) in the b	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
students should master), then underline nouns (Finally, put brackets around words that show the	•
demonstrate mastery.	context of the task students will perform to
demonstrate mastery.	
Step 2: Break the standards down into specific of	content knowledge (nouns) and skills (verbs)
that students need to master this standard.	
Using your annotations, list the content	
knowledge that students will need in order to master this standard.	
master this standard.	
Using your annotations, list the skills that	
students will need in order to master this standard.	
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Step 3: Create a set of learning targets (lesson need to do in order to master this standard.	objectives) describing exactly what students will
need to do in order to master this standard.	
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