

# Protocol for Professional Learning Conversations

## Learning Goal:

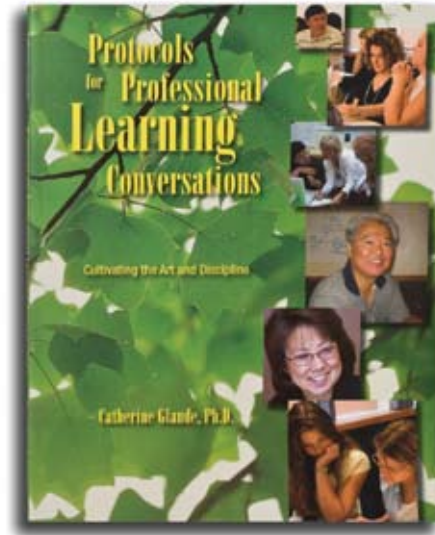
This Conversation will focus on how colleagues engaged in a structured conversation can share knowledge, skills, and experiences to improve student learning.

## Materials:

*Protocols for Professional Learning Conversations* by Catherine Glaude for each participant. A die. (If no die is available, suggest they write 1 to 6 on small slips of paper and place them in a cup, or use playing cards 1 to 6).

## Getting Started:

1. Explain that a protocol is a structured process for guiding a dialogue between educators. If group members have had experience using protocols, have them briefly share 2-3 experiences.
2. Have people sit with a partner and exchange *one* idea as to why a protocol might be helpful in a professional conversation.
3. Read the section *Why Use a Protocol?* on page 2. Have partners share a brief, quick comment or connection after each of the 8 statements regarding the use of a protocol.
4. Explain that the book is a resource with many different protocols that can be adapted and used for different types of professional conversations. Explain that the group is about to sample several protocols and consider how these protocols might be adapted or used.
5. Have each partner group join two other partner groups so there are now 6 people together. Assign a number 1-6 to each person in the group.
6. Have everyone silently read the protocol on page 16 and discuss the following: *What is the purpose of this protocol? What does it look like when a group uses this*



*protocol? What are some thoughts about how the protocol might be adapted or used with your school or team?* The final question is the one that people should spend the most time exchanging ideas on.

7. Instruct people that you will soon roll a die (or pull a number), and the person with the number on the die (or the number pulled) will move to a new group and share highlights from his/her group's conversation on how this protocol may be used or adapted. Before you roll the die, allow people at each table 3 minutes to summarize the highlights of their group's conversation. (This will prepare everyone to do the summary if his/her number is selected.)
8. Roll the die (or pull a number). Call the number and instruct the person at each table with that number to move to a new table and share his/her group's highlights. (Each table will now have one new person.)
9. In these new table groups, begin the round again, repeating steps 6-8 using a new protocol on page 24.
10. Continue with two additional rounds using protocols on pages 26 and 38.

## Debriefing the Learning:

Ask the group to share insights that surfaced about using protocols and next steps that individuals might consider to further explore the protocols.