

MILLS TEACHER SCHOLARS

Understand Learning, Improve Teaching

Thinking Space Protocol (reflecting on PLCs)

SPEAKER OPENS ~ 3 minutes

- ★ If the speaker runs out of things to say, listeners do not jump in, but keep this as the speaker's thinking space.
 - My vision for my PLC space is ...
 - I am hoping adult learners will ...
 - I am wondering
 - I would like help thinking about ...

LISTENERS REFLECT ~ 2 minutes

- ★ The listeners' goal is to understand the speaker's thinking and develop the speaker's awareness of their vision and reality, not solve the speaker's problem.
 - It sounds like the speaker is hoping to see/hear...
 - I'm curious what the speaker means by...
 - A strength that stands out to me is...

OPEN DISCUSSION BETWEEN SPEAKER AND LISTENERS ~ 6 minutes

- ★ Listeners help the speaker understand what the data is showing and clarify goals and possible next steps.
 - What would success look like?
 - What might be getting in the way?
 - How can you find out what your learners think about that?
 - What is a possible next step?

SPEAKER CLOSES ~ 1 minute

- ★ A listener records what the speaker says to support the speaker's next steps.
 - I used to think... but now I think ... because...
 - Something I want to pay more attention to is ... because...
 - My next step is ...
 - I'm wondering ...