

Success Analysis Protocol*

TnT

Monday, November 13, 2006

Roles

A timekeeper/facilitator

The facilitator's role is to help the group to keep focused on how this practice is different from your typical. The analysis of what makes this practice so successful is the purpose of the protocol.

"Best Practice" is defined as a process that proved to be highly effective in achieving the intended outcome.

1. Reflect on and write a short description of the one "Best Practice" of your work regarding *new diploma requirements* within the last year. Note what it is about the practice that made it so successful. Be sure to answer the question, "What made this work different from other experiences?" (10 minutes)
2. In mixed groups of 3, the first person shares their "Best Practice" and why it was so successful. (5 minutes)
3. The rest of the group asks clarifying questions about the details of the "Best Practice". (4 minutes)
4. The group does an analysis of what they heard about the presenter's success and offers additional insights about how this practice is different than other practices. Probing questions are appropriate and the presenter's participation in the conversation is encouraged. (10 minutes)
5. The presenter responds to the group's analysis of what made this experience so successful. (3 minutes)
6. Each participant has two minutes to reflect on how his/her success is similar/different to the one presented. *For today's meeting, we will analyze one success per group. Had we additional time each of the other members of the group would take turns sharing their "Best Practice" and what made it so successful, followed by clarifying questions and the group discussion analyzing how this practice differs from other practices. (Each round would take about 30 minutes for a group of 3.)*
7. Take a moment to celebrate success.
8. Debrief the protocol as a whole group. Possible questions: What worked well? How might we apply what we learned to other work? What adaptations to this protocol might improve the process? (5 minutes)

*Developed in the field by educators affiliated with the National School Reform Faculty. Protocols are most powerful and effective when used within an ongoing professional learning community such as a Critical Friends Group and facilitated by a skilled coach.