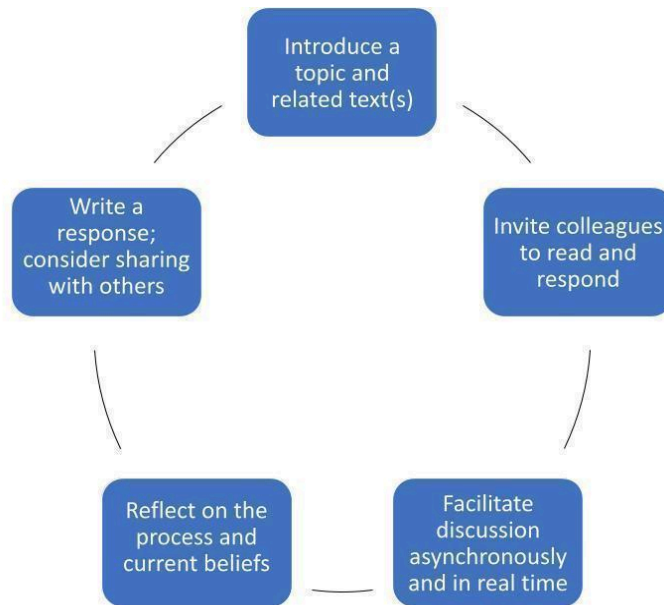


# September 2023 Professional Conversation:

## Balancing Schoolwide Expectations and Teacher Empowerment



### Professional Conversation Guide

**Date, Time, Location:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023, 5:30pm CST, Zoom

**Topics** (Idea, Issue, Challenge): Balancing Schoolwide Expectations and Teacher Empowerment

**Text(s):** Why Teachers Shouldn't Have to Submit Lesson Plans by Paul Emerich France (*ASCD Blog*)

**Guiding question:** Should teachers be required to submit lesson plans?

**Discussion intention:**

- To build knowledge and awareness around this topic
- To demonstrate how to facilitate a professional conversation



Template developed by Matt Renwick for the [Read by Example](#) community.

### Learning Progression

1. Review purpose and norms for professional conversation
  - Purpose: To build knowledge about literacy and to model collaborative leadership
  - Norms (Source: [Peloton Group Newsletter/Those Who Listen, Change the World](#))
    - Dialogue should be a basic attitude.
    - Create safe spaces.
    - Include all relevant parties.
    - In a dialogue, you must listen.
    - Let everyone share their experiences.
    - Ask questions.
    - Talk about difficult topics.
    - Contribute to forgiveness and reconciliation.
2. Opening: *What are you listening to right now?*
3. Guests introduce themselves (start recording)
4. Share your initial responses to the text, or expand on what was posted in the asynchronous discussion thread.
5. Build on what others are saying through questioning and clarifications.
6. At the end of the conversation, ask for one one takeaway or closing thought.
7. After the conversation, you are invited to write about what was learned today, reflecting on what you believe to be true and how you will lead today.



# Should teachers be required to submit lesson plans? (Or do we need to ask a better question?)

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Questions	Responses
France lists three reasons why administrators may not require teachers to submit lesson plans. What are your initial thoughts?	
Let's play devil's advocate - why might a principal require lesson plans to be submitted?	
Could we be asking a better question? What is this really about?	
Other questions you have?	

## Additional resources

- [Asynchronous Discussion Thread](#) (September 5)
- [Video Archive of Professional Conversation](#) (September 30)
- Audio Recording of Professional Conversation (September 30)
- Full Transcript of Professional Conversation



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