



Effective Communication: Developing Skills in Feedback and Addressing Challenging Conversations

ENGAGE

In your first years of teaching, you have a variety of opportunities to collaborate and work with colleagues from your school and your district. From personality differences to trying to reach consensus with divisive decisions, **"How can we effectively communicate with members of our educational community?"**

EXPLORE

Pre-Webinar Learning | Building Knowledge

Explore the following resources on this topic. Read the first two articles and then read/view two others of your choice:

- [Key takeaways from Team Simon Sinek's live online class](#) (blog post) Megha Saini shares her key takeaways from Team Simon Sinek's online class *"How to Deliver and Accept Feedback Effectively?"*
- [Crucial Conversations Training: Summary of Techniques](#) (blog post) A summary of the tools needed to manage crucial conversations.
- [Brené Brown on Empathy](#) (video, 2:53) In this animated RSA Short, Dr Brené Brown reminds us that we can only create a genuine empathic connection if we are brave enough to really get in touch with our own fragilities.
- [Taking the Stress Out of Stressful Conversations](#) (blog post) This Harvard Business Review post summarizes 3 common stressful conversations in the workplace and gives some practical advice on how to address them..
- [Dealing with Conflicts Before They Become Conflicts](#) (podcast, 26:00) In this episode The Guys explain how to deal with disagreements while they're still minor grievances and before they erupt into full-blown battles.
- [How to Take the Challenge Out of Challenging Conversations](#) (infographic) Here are tips shared in a on how to have more challenging conversations with the people in your team during demanding times

Webinar | Guided Practice

Attend the guided-practice webinar to learn more about effective communication as a first year teacher and successful strategies to implement in the classroom. Click [here](#) to attend the meeting on [date](#)



EXPLAIN

Reflection | Independent Practice

Using the Padlet Discussion board, explain your understanding of the readings and the webinar. Post a reflection responding to each of the following question prompts:

- *In thinking about your professional relationships, what are some topics or situations that might call for providing feedback or having challenging conversations?*
- *What is one insight you had from the readings that affirmed how you address challenging conversations? What is still a challenge or a wonder for you?*

In Padlet you can respond in [writing, video, or voice](#). Please respond to two other teachers' posts with a question or connection.

Seminar | Facilitated Discussion

Join a relevant discussion about the importance of effective communication in establishing a positive classroom culture. We will be using [The 4 C's Thinking Routine](#) to help guide our conversation on practical applications to our teaching. This will be an opportunity to collaboratively solve problems and receive feedback for their idea for their final deliverable.

ELABORATE

Final Deliverable | Application of Learning

Complete and submit this [reflection page](#). You may write out your ideas or use another communication channel (video or audio) that explains how you were able to use the different skills to provide feedback or effectively confront challenging conversations. There will be directions on the page to help you.

EVALUATE

Single Point Rubric | Self Assessment

Use [this rubric](#) to self-assess your progress and to guide your final deliverable design.