



## Super Seven Agreements for Courageous Conversations

*Adapted From Courageous Conversations (2006) Gleen E. Singleton & Curtis Linton*

---

*A learning community...a group of people who take an active, reflective, collaborative, learning-oriented, and growth-promoting approach toward the mysteries, problems and perplexities of teaching and learning. Mitchell and Sackney (2000)*

---

### **1. Stay engaged. Mantenerse involucrado.**

To stay engaged is a refusal to let your heart and mind “check out” of the conversation. It is a personal commitment each person makes, regardless of the engagement of others. It means remaining morally, emotionally, intellectually, and socially involved in the dialogue.

### **2. Speak your truth. Decir su verdad**

To speak your truth you must be willing to take risks and be absolutely honest about thoughts, feelings, and opinions and not just saying what you perceive others want to hear. Until we become completely honest, the dialogue will remain limited and ultimately ineffective.

### **3. Experience discomfort. Sentir incomodidad.**

To deal with the reality of challenges in an honest and forthright way, we must agree to experience discomfort that is to be expected due to the challenges of teaching and learning within a high needs school. If we experience division during discussion, it is most likely true that the division existed already. Although discomforting, giving voice and meaning to the divide can begin the process of alignment and improvement.

### **4. Expect and accept non-closure. Esperar y aceptar que no siempre hay un cierre.**

To engage in courageous conversations is to recognize that we will not reach closure on all issues immediately. There are not always “quick fixes” or solutions to challenges that impact a whole community. Therefore, we must commit to ongoing dialogue as an essential component of our action plan.

### **5. Confidentiality. Confidencialidad.**

To support each other in our risk-taking we agree to respect the privacy of each individual’s life experiences, but reserve the right to discuss relevant ideas and content publicly.

### **6. 24-48 Hour Rule. Regla de las 24-48 hs**

To make sure we are being honest with ourselves and others, we must practice sharing things that bother us directly with the other person. We agree to speak directly to one another, and if we have not done so within the 24-48 hours following our feelings, we agree to make peace with the situation and let it go.

### **7. No Hearsay Rule. Regla contra el rumor**

We agree to go to the source for any information we are confused or upset about. We don’t gossip or spread rumor.