

Effective Science Teaching

Professional Development Centered on

Using Protocols to:

Look at Student Work

(LASW)

*A University-Schools Partnership
in Northwest Washington*

Strand Goals and Outcomes

Teachers will work as a Professional Learning Community to:

- Recognize the structure and purpose of protocols
- Engage colleagues in a structured, collaborative discussion focused on student learning
- Learn to choose and adapt different protocols for different purposes
- Gain tools to use in their role as TLs

What are Protocols?

- Protocols consist of...
 - agreed upon structures and guidelines for conversation
 - vehicles for building the skills and culture necessary for collaborative work
- LASW Protocols enable educators to carefully and collaboratively examine student and/or teacher work

LASW Protocol as a PD Strategy

“The impact of Professional Development is inverse to the square of its distance from the classroom.”

-Richard Elmore

Rationale for Using LASW Protocols

- Deepens exploration of important ideas in teaching and learning
- Using a protocol will enhance the probability that everyone will have balanced opportunities to listen, present, examine, question, and respond
- It's a good vehicle for surfacing assumptions, values, and beliefs in educational practice

The Power of Protocols

a different PD pathway to change

Careful Collaboration Looking at Work
In Own Classroom



Deeper Understanding Through Hearing
Others Perspectives and Questions



Changes in Classroom Practice Based on New
Understandings



Improved Student Learning

Why use the High-Medium-Low (H-M-L) protocol?

- Developing shared expectations of student work
- Developing a rubric

Directions Part I: (20 min.)

1. Individually complete “Can it Reflect Light?” probe
2. When all group members are done, share answers
3. Come to consensus on correct answer
4. Ask room facilitator for Scientists’ Ideas on “Can it Reflect Light?”
5. Read and discuss Scientists’ Ideas

Directions Part II: (50 min.)

1. Read H-M-L purpose and protocol
2. Ask room facilitator any questions you have
3. Select a *Facilitator*, *Timekeeper*, and *Recorder*
4. Follow directions in protocol