

Core Proposition/"Say Something"

Rationale: The National Board Core Propositions are foundational to the entire National Board Certification® process. As such, it is important that teachers are familiar with each proposition and that they are able to connect teaching practice to the Core Propositions.



Management

Time: 30-45 minutes
Materials: Copies of Core Propositions for each participant (full text recommended)
 Handout WS3.A2.H1
Equipment: Countdown timer
Grouping: Groups of 2 or 3, whole group discussion

Outcomes:

- Participants will have a clear understanding that the Core Propositions are the basis for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do.

Instructions to NB Candidate Support Provider:

1. Divide participants into groups of 2 or 3.
2. Ask teachers to imagine what they would see, hear and feel in an accomplished teacher's classroom and record it on the handout.
3. Have the groups count off by 5's.
4. Have participants locate the full text of the Core Proposition in the portfolio instructions that matches their number, 1-5. Suggest that participants identify how far they will read silently, usually 1-3 paragraphs, before stopping to say something.
5. Once participants reach the chosen stopping point they exchange comments or "say something". The "something" could be a question, a brief summary, a key point, an interesting idea or a new connection. They may want to connect what they have read to their description of the accomplished teacher's classroom.
6. Continue the process until the selection is completed; This will take approximately 8 minutes. Use a countdown timer so participants can gauge their discussion time.
7. As a group, discuss the classroom description in context with the information they have read about one Core Proposition.
8. As time permits, rotate through the Core Propositions.

Processing:

- What are some ways that your practice reflects the five Core Propositions?
- What are some new learnings you have discovered in studying the Core Propositions?

Journal:

Which Core Proposition do you identify with the most and why?
 What Core Proposition identifies your practice the least? What steps might you take to change that?

Follow-up:

Read and complete practice activities on pp. 1-24 of Navigating the National Board Certification Process.

