Productive Talk: 
Year Two and Beyond: Implementation 
Tips & Tricks

Kelly MacDonell
Katie MacDonell
Norms

Be present

Be willing to participate

Be respectful of ideas and opinions

Be focused on the topic at hand
Changing schools, classes

Gradual release of accountability throughout day - cubes at first

Q&A about talk moves, if time, productive talk example

If time, how well has it been received in other districts?
Planning for a productive talk discussion

Map out most important discussion points

- Prior knowledge vs. reaching consensus

Strategically plan who should participate first

- Tentative kids on warm ups & review or the meatier discussion
Planning for a productive talk discussion

Timing

- Reaching consensus will take different times depending on class, topic, day
- Contingency plan
- Students should naturally reach consensus faster on familiar topics ex: main idea / theme
Elementary model / all day with students

Gradual release of accountability

- Ex: cubes only during first lesson
- Tracking sheet
Secondary model / Departmentalized

Changing classes

Changing schools
Q & A Time

How has Productive Talk been received in your school district? Any suggestions for getting administrators on board?
Group Discussion

Discussion Topic Options:

1. Can teachers wear leggings as pants?
2. Which movie was better: A Star Is Born or Bohemian Rhapsody?
3. What brand of phone is better, iPhone or Samsung?

Questions to Think About:

- What did you notice as a “student”?
- What does the role of the teacher look/sound like?
Resources

Thank you to Mary Burke from KRESA and Dr. Michael Tanoff from KAMSC.

Materials were adapted from www.ngsx.org and training provided by KRESA.

Course Offerings:
https://www.kresa.org/domain/219

Link to resources padlet