Chalk Talk Protocol

PURPOSE
Responding in writing to a team member's question about Reading Apprenticeship can have the effect of producing more thoughtful feedback and more equitable participation among team members. Note: Teachers also find that Chalk Talk can be a successful classroom activity.

PROCEDURE: EIGHTEEN MINUTES
In advance: A team member prepares a question that has come up for him or her related to a Reading Apprenticeship classroom experience and posts the question on a chalkboard or other public space with room around it for team members to write comments or add sticky notes.

1. Explain the directions: One minute
   - No talking!
   - Write or post at least one response to the question and at least two responses to comments of other team members.
   Responses may include:
   - A question about the question
   - A question about a colleague's comment
   - Agreement or disagreement with the question plus evidence/rationale
   - Agreement or disagreement with a comment plus evidence/rationale
   - An additional idea to an existing idea
   - A new idea
   - A connection between two or more ideas, explained

2. Team members write responses to the question and to others' comments: Ten minutes

3. Team members reflect and write to themselves: Three minutes
   - What new thoughts or questions did I have during this Chalk Talk?

4. Team members debrief the activity and their learning and questions: Four minutes