



# Handout 1: Facilitating Collaboration and Professional Learning Leadership Network Feb 2022

## What is Collaboration?

- Voluntary
- All parties are co-equal
- Working toward a common goal with shared resources, responsibilities, and accountability

## Why Collaborate?

- Key element of a productive school climate
- Leads to larger collective efficacy within a school and district
- Principal effects on instruction, in part, is through teachers working together on instructional improvement
- A way to leverage the expertise and engagement of other leaders in the school to create and maintain communities of practice
- Drive higher student achievement
- Lower teacher turnover

## Facilitating Collaboration - Building Leaders

- Create systems for a culture of learning and formal collaboration (set purpose and expectations)
- Establish professional learning as a priority
- Provide opportunities, time, budget, schedule, and support for formal collaboration
- Lead effective data use for student improvement; Allow opportunities for data use and training
- Explicit protocols for collaboration
- Common planning time
- Engage directly to facilitate teachers' collaborative work in the instructional teams (model collaboration)
- Leverage the expertise and engagement of other leaders in the school to maintain professional learning communities
- Monitor collaboration and provide feedback

## Facilitating Collaboration - Central Office

- Effective communication (communication structures and protocols)
- Communicate priorities
- Model collaboration
- Set the conditions for effective collaboration
  - Support building leaders (such as establishing Learning Focused Partnerships)
  - Structure for providing feedback and monitoring (such as the District Network and Building Networks)

Blueprint Tools and Resources. (2022, January). Retrieved from

<https://blueprinttoolsandresources.com/2020-rebrand-home-page/bp-online-warehouse/>

Grissom, J. A., Egalite, A. J., & Lindsay, C. A. (2021, February). *How principals affect students and schools: A systematic synthesis of two decades of research.*

<https://www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/pages/how-principals-affect-students-and-schools-a-systematic-synthesis-of-two-decades-of-research.aspx>