Modified What? So What? Now What? Protocol

This protocol allows participants to connect with one another and receive useful feedback about the work. The protocol creates space to acknowledge successes as well as recognize and reflect on how challenges can become opportunities.

Modified What? So What? Now What? Protocol

Purpose

This protocol allows participants to connect to one another and to each other's work, while at the same time allowing all group members to receive useful feedback.

Introduction from Facilitator

Today, we are doing a modified version of the *What? So What? Now What?* protocol. Our goal is to connect to our team's work. This means acknowledging our successes but also recognizing and reflecting on how our challenges can become opportunities. We are going to engage in the protocol using the steps below.

1. Presenters will set the context and ground the team on "What did we do? What are we working on?" The focus is on successes and challenges.

2. Then, the presenters will take us through the "So What? Or, why is this important to us?" As the other team members listen, they take notes using the note catcher:

Context Setting	What?	So What?	Now What?
Outline success(es), challenge(s), and the opportunities they present.	What did we do? What are we working on?	Why is this important to us?	What can we do?

Based on the School Reform Initiative What? So What? Now What? Protocol.

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3. Presenters introduce key highlights on student enrollment and persistence data to provide additional background. Team members are given time to process quietly and can markup the text with their thoughts.

4. The presenters answer any clarifying questions. In small groups (two to three people):

   ° Team members discuss what they heard in the "What?" and "So What?" portions. ("What I heard the presenter say was…" "Why this seems important to us…" "I wonder…")

   ° Team members spend time discussing "Now What?" Remember, the team owns this work collectively.

5. The team comes back together to discuss the "Now What?" Presenters take notes on what they hear and share their thoughts.

6. Debrief the protocol and process.

Based on the School Reform Initiative What? So What? Now What? Protocol.