**Tips for Improving Student-to-Student Discourse**

From *Notice & Note* by Kylene Beers & Robert Probst (pp 29-31)



1. Listen to the conversations in your classroom, asking yourself if there is evidence of rigorous thinking.
2. Step back and let students pose questions.
3. Five various students prompts that can keep the conversation going.
4. Record small-group conversations, using either an audio recorder or a video camera.
5. Give students specific feedback about their comments as a natural part of conversation. (“I like the way you connected your comment about the character to what Andy just told us.” instead of “Good point.”)
6. Encourage students to elaborate.
7. Ask high-level questions of ALL students.
8. Encourage students to use the vocabulary of the discipline.
9. Arrange desks so that students see one another’s faces instead of backs of heads.