



LEAGUE OF  
INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS  
NEW ENGLAND SECONDARY  
SCHOOL CONSORTIUM

## Three A's Protocol for LIS Principals' PLG

January 2020

**Purpose:** To explore a text in light of one's own values and intentions

**Roles:** Facilitator/timekeeper (who also participates); participants

**Process:**

1. The group reads the resources silently, making notes while reading in order to answer to the following 3 questions:
  - What do you **Agree** with in the reading?
  - What do you want to **Argue** with in the reading?
  - What parts of the reading do you want to **Aspire** to (or **Act upon**)?
2. In a round, have each person identify one point of agreement in the reading, citing the section of the article as evidence.
3. Continue in rounds where the group talks about the reading in light of each of the remaining "A"s, taking them one at a time. What do people want to argue with, and aspire to (or act upon) in the reading? Try to move seamlessly from one "A" to the next, giving each "A" enough time for full exploration.
4. End the session with an open discussion framed around the questions: *What does this mean for thinking about the work of community engagement in our school change process?*
5. Debrief the experience.

adapted from "The Four A's Text Protocol," School Reform Initiative,  
<http://www.schoolreforminitiative.org/>