# NCNSP Common Instructional Framework (CIF) Monitoring Toolkit

#### **Collaborative Group**

- Students have clearly defined roles
- Students work in 2s, 3s, or 4s
- Teacher circulates to assess students' understanding
- Teacher embeds collaborative group work in lesson plans
- Teacher establishes rules and expectations for groups, listens and observes as groups work, redirect students if necessary and push students to deepen their conversations
- Teacher varies group configurations, length of time in groups and group activities

## **Writing to Learn**

- Connects content to prior knowledge
- Embed writing to learn in lesson plans and in collaborative group work
- First, middle, or end of class daily
- Focuses content
- Helps make content relevant
- Helps teachers see level of understanding or confusion
- Low-stakes writing (brainstorming, exit tickets, free-writes, etc.)
- Utilize writing to learn as a formative assessment tool

## **Literacy Groups**

- Can use book or short texts
- Establish rules and expectations for groups
- EVERY student has a voice and is accountable for the learning
- Listen and observe as groups work
- Make each group responsible for creating a product that reflects their learning Provide choice for students/differentiation
- Redirect students if necessary and push student to deepen their conversations
- Use roles, provide opportunities for students to "shine"

## Questioning

- Encourages student questions
- Engages students in relevance and rigor
- Provides plenty of wait/processing time
- Reflects Bloom's Taxonomy, encouraging higher levels of thinking
- Students asks probing questions of each other
- Teacher asks probing questions from basic remembering to higher levels of critical thinking
- Teacher uses questioning as a formative assessment to gauge where students are in their understanding of the topic
- Teacher uses wait time and pacing to encourage all students to engage

## **Scaffolding**

- Makes excellent use of graphic organizers
- Students make connections between their prior knowledge and experience and new content and skills
- Teacher "frontloads" information BRIEFLY before assigning reading

#### Classroom Talk

- ALL students are involved in discussion and held accountable for learning Focused, rich discussions in small groups and/or whole group
- Students engage in meaningful conversations around the curriculum
- Teacher becomes a facilitator/listener
- Teachers uses protocols and instructional strategies that support effective classroom talk