

## **Professional Book Clubs: An Introduction for Educators**

### ***What are they?***

Professional book clubs are:

- An opportunity for educators to engage in professional discourse around a specific topic of teaching and learning.
- Individuals committed to reading and discussing a selected book, guided by the question: "How will this book influence my philosophy and professional practice in my classroom and teaching community?"

### ***Why are they important?***

A professional book club is important because they:

- Provide the chance to discuss teaching and learning with a group of peers on a topic of interest to them
- Help communities of educators maintain interest in contemporary issues, topics, programs, and educational theory and research.
- Offer educators a supportive environment to engage in risk-free, honest discussions that result in both personal and professional growth..

### ***When are they useful?***

Professional book clubs are used when

- A group of educators wish to explore a topic in which they all share a common interest.

To learn more about Professional Book Talks refer to: Donohue, Z., VanTassel, M. & Patterson, L. (1996). *Research in the Classroom Talk, Texts, and Inquiry*, Newark, Delaware: International Reading Association.