Student Observation Protocol
Observer as Learner

Adapted for observing students in ATLAS Communities from Peer Observation Protocols created by the National School Reform Faculty.

The primary “learner” in this protocol is the observer. The observer’s only purpose is to learn how to improve their own practice by observing colleagues’ students. Since the observer has little responsibility to the observed, the duration of the observation and the level of attention to what’s going on is determined by the observer.

**Pre-Observation Conference**
It is not necessary to have a pre-observation conference unless either party would like to have one. A pre-conference would help to orient the observer as to what will be happening.

**Observation**
The observer focuses on whatever they wish.

**Debriefing**
There is no debriefing conversation between the observer and the observed other than: “Thanks for letting me visit!” Both observer and observed reflect on the observation by themselves.

**Reflection**
How will what I learned today impact my classroom practice? What will I do differently next time? What do I need to remember to do again?