ProMISE Protocol
Using the Courageous Conversation Compass with a Text

Adapted from the Judith Gray’s 4As by Debbie Bambino, Daniel Baron and RoLesia Holman, June 2007.

Description
Use the “Compass” from Courageous Conversations About Race to reflect on the author’s perspective and your response to a text morally, intellectually, socially and emotionally.

Process
• Distribute copies of the “Compass” and review the four points or quadrants before reading the text. Explain that ProMISE means: A Pro-active journey towards examining and understanding the Moral, Intellectual, Social, and Emotional foundations required for racial healing to occur. Singleton & Linton, 2006 (p.151)

• Select and read the text. Highlight sections that correspond to the four points of the “compass.” The text should be provocative and should lend itself to reflection and interpretation.

• Divide into small groups of four.

• Choose one point on the “Compass” and ask each participant to share their selection and their response to it in rounds on a moral (believing), intellectual (thinking) and social (doing), and emotional (feeling) level. In some instances, the selection may connect to more than one, or all points. (2 minutes each, 8 minutes/round)

• After each round, discuss what you heard and implications for your practice before moving to the next point/round. (7 minutes)

• Debrief the content and process. (10 minutes)
Protocols are most powerful and effective when used within an ongoing professional learning community such as a Critical Friends Group® and facilitated by a skilled coach. To learn more about professional learning communities and seminars for new or experienced coaches, please visit the National School Reform Faculty website at www.nsrfharmony.org.