

PLC Guide: The following is a sample protocol that teacher teams can take to gain an understanding of RIGOR to build strong core instruction and to create a common language for teacher feedback. The goal of this PLC will be to develop common language and concrete strategies for teachers. When pairing RIGOR with rubric descriptors, leaders are able to make feedback actionable for teachers, and this feedback will help improve their core instruction.

Topic for Discussion: Teachers will be given tools and resources to read about the term RIGOR. You can find the resources for this PLC [here](#).

Step 1:	<p>Download the PowerPoint slides entitled RIGOR section of the TDOE Leadership website at here. Also, select the video (Grade 8 Algebra I Questioning clip) from the Ayers Institute website here.</p> <p>Have teachers complete pre-reading assignment. (One assignment will RIGOR on RIGOR on reading. All literacy teachers (ELA, SS, etc) should be included in this reading assignment. All math teachers (or similar subjects) should be include in the math reading assignment).</p>
Step 2:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the PowerPoint slide that define the term, RIGOR. Ask the teachers to share from their reading and compare it with the definition of RIGOR from the slides. 2. Develop a draft “definition” of RIGOR collaboratively and share on chart paper or digitally in a PowerPoint slide. (If sharing a digital slide, make sure that your staff has collectively created their own definition that can be similar to the original. Your goal is to have all staff members feel ownership of this common language, and you want your staff members to be able to discuss in postconferences with the same language.
Step 3:	<p>Explain to the staff that you will be “testing” this definition with a video and discussion.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share the Ayers Institute Video with the staff. (Grade 5 ELA) 2. Share the PowerPoint slide with the walk through questions. Ask staff members to provide evidence explaining how the teacher demonstrated strong RIGOR. You may need to share this video twice. In addition, provide teachers with a copy of the walk through questions from the PowerPoint slide. 3. Debrief as a staff what they found in the video.
Step 4:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share the General Educator Rubric or your current evaluation rubric with teachers. 2. Ask teachers to align the common definition of RIGOR with one indicator. (We recommend Questioning for RIGOR). Ask the staff to identify: “How does this indicator align to the definition of RIGOR?” and “Which descriptors most align?” 3. At this point, have your staff refine their definition (if necessary).
Step 5:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After providing models from the PowerPoint, ask teachers to script sample feedback phrases that would help a three level teacher obtain a five using the RIGOR language.
Step 6:	<p>Extension:</p> <p>After developing a common definition that is linked to indicators for evaluation, ask teachers to peer observe teaching partners looking for RIGOR and have teachers give each other feedback based on this activity.</p>

