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.

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Tool for Assessing the Purpose & Features of Protocols

*Adapted from A Facilitator’s Book of Questions by David Allen & Tina Blythe (Teachers College Press)*

**Purposes of Protocols**

- Question-finding
- Problem-Solving

**Features of Protocols**

- No context
- Some context
- Detailed context

- Observation
- Interpretation
- Evaluation

- No focusing question/issue is established
- A general focusing question/issue is established
- A specific focusing question/issue is established