Consultancy Protocol

Overview
Using this protocol, educators have a chance to work with each other in triads to get help with a problem they are struggling with. This cycle allows for each person in the triad to share their problem and get feedback from the others, drawing on the others’ expertise. Someone from each triad acts as the timekeeper to make sure every member gets equal time for her or his issue.

Time
45 minutes, plus a few minutes for reflection with the whole group

Instructions
Teacher leaders gather in groups of three. In each group, each person’s issue is discussed as follows:

1. **Overview of the problem or question (3 minutes)**
   - The presenter gives an overview of a problem with which he or she is struggling, presents necessary background knowledge, and frames a question for the group to consider.

2. **The group asks clarifying questions (3 minutes)**
   - The group asks specific questions about the information presented to gain a better understanding of the problem. Questions should be brief, factual questions.

3. **The group talks about the problem presented (6 minutes)**
   - The group discusses the problem and potential next steps, ideas, and considerations.
   - The presenter is silent, listening and taking notes.

4. **The presenter reflects back what was heard and learned (3 minutes)**