



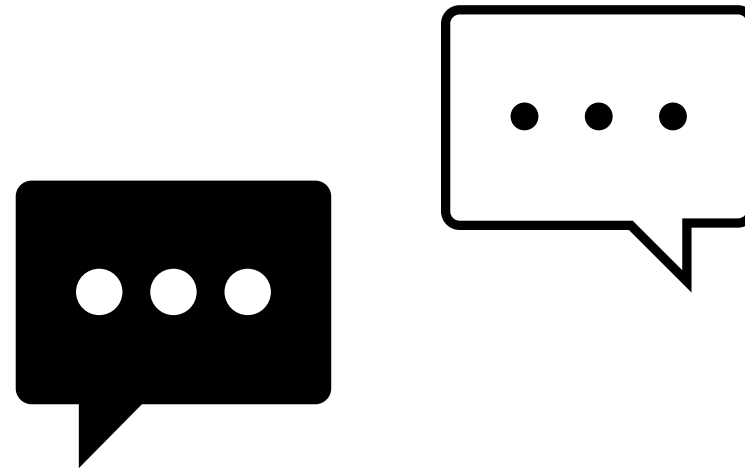
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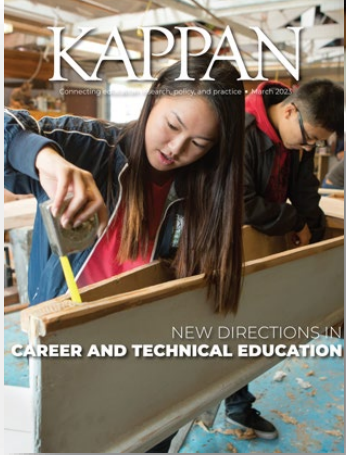
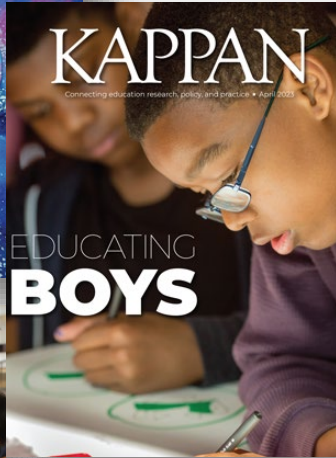
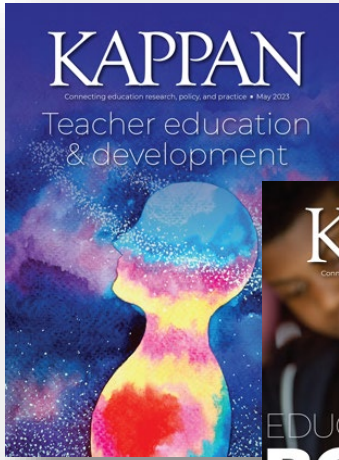
Using the *Kappan* Monthly Discussion  
Topics to Support Educators Rising  
Chapters and Courses

# What We'll Cover Today



- What are the *Kappan* Monthly Discussion Questions?
- Where can you find them?
- How you can use them to support your Educators Rising chapters and courses?





<https://kappanonline.org/>

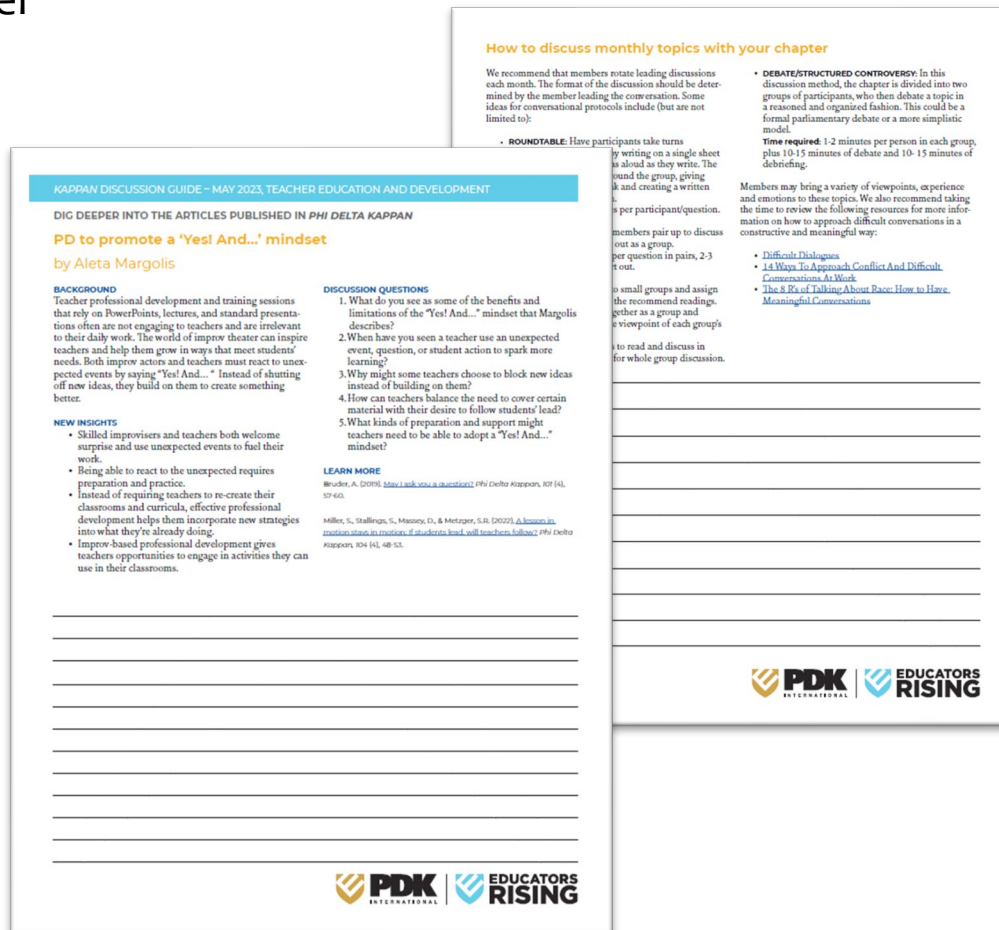
*Phi Delta Kappan* is the professional magazine for anyone who cares about K-12 education. In print since 1915, it features articles connecting educational research, practice, and policy.

# Kappan Magazine



The Discussion Guides for 2023-23 contained:

- 2 Kappan articles with accompanying
  - Background
  - New Insights
  - Discussion Questions, and
  - References to learn more on the topic.
- How to discuss monthly chapter discussion questions with your chapter



# Kappan Discussion Guide



# Monthly Discussion Questions

Online Store

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PDK Polls

Beginning to Teach Micro-Credentials

**Educators Rising High School Resources**

Student Resources

Teacher Leader Resources

State-Regional Coordinator Resources

Educators Rising Collegiate Resources

PDK Association Member Resources Site

Pi Lambda Theta

**National Competitions**

Educators Rising national competitions are performance-based cc knowledge, skills, and leadership in education. With a blend of ind rising educators to stretch their creativity, commitment, and profe

**Fundraising Ideas**

Chapter-level fundraising is a reality for student organizations. We national conference can be a barrier to some students. Because o these expenses.

**National Board Atlas Videos**

Thanks to a partnership with the National Board for Professional 1 commentaries of National Board Certified Teachers in action. [Nati](#)

**Get Inspired Videos**

There are few things more important or more powerful than the c videos that highlight why teachers matter. Think of it as inspirati

[Inspirational Videos](#)

[Student Voices Videos](#)

Both teacher leaders and rising educators can access the monthly discussion questions in the Educators Rising Membership Portal.

[members.pdkintl.org](https://members.pdkintl.org)



# Monthly Discussion Questions

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Look under “Student Resources” and then go to “Monthly Discussion Questions”

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# Monthly Discussion Questions

Each article below is hyperlinked to the monthly discussion guides.



## Monthly Discussion Questions

### 2022-2023 Academic Year

- **September 2022** Discussion Topic – What educators want - 'Grant us the sun': What Black teachers need/Going all-in for well-being (two articles)
- **October 2022** Discussion Topic – The middle grades - 'You just have to get through it/What middle schoolers need: Respect, accountability, and grace: A conversation with Alma Lopez (two articles)
- **November 2022** Discussion Topic – Reframing accountability - Beyond 'good' and 'bad': Disrupting narratives about school quality/Can grades be an effective form of feedback (two articles)
- **December 2022/January 2023** Discussion Topic – Safe at school? - School safety for all students/A lesson is motion stays in motion: If students lead, will teachers follow (two articles)
- **February 2023** Discussion Topic – Spotlight on suburban schools - Loudest voices and unequal opportunities in the suburbs: A conversation with John B. Diamond/Collaborative delivery in the classroom (two articles)
- **March 2023** Discussion Topic – New directions in career and technical education - Teacher academies that make a difference NOW/Mochilas of excellence (two articles)
- **April 2023** Discussion Topic – Educating boys - Preventing online radicalization and extremism in boys: A conversation with Pasha Dashtgard/Rethinking school time (two articles)
- **May 2023** Discussion Topic – Teacher education and development - PD to promote a 'Yes! And...' mindset/Teaching students to be skilled citizens (two articles; available 5/1)

### 2021-2022 Academic Year

- **September 2021** Discussion Topic – School choice: Where now? - The current landscape of school choice in the United States
- **October 2021** Discussion Topic – Rethinking the early years - What Early Childhood Educators Know About Developmentally Appropriate Practice
- **November 2021** Discussion Topic – Who will teach? - (Six articles)
- **December 2021/January 2022** Discussion Topic – Spotlight on rural education - Putting rural communities at the center: A conversation with Sky Marietta
- **February 2022** Discussion Topic - The interpersonal life of schools - A caring climate that promotes belonging and engagement
- **March 2022** Discussion Topic - The right IDEAs for special education - Reimagining IDEA using the axiom of brilliance
- **April 2022** Discussion Topic – The ups and downs of family engagement - Family engagement and conflict about teaching for social justice
- **May 2022** Discussion Topic – Literacy today - Making sense of reading's forever wars

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# How to Discuss Monthly Discussion Questions with Your Chapters & Classes



## Roundtable

- Have participants take turns responding to questions by writing on a single sheet of paper, stating their ideas aloud as they write.
- The paper keeps circulating around the group, giving everyone a chance to speak and creating a written record of the conversation.

**Time required:** 1-2 minutes per participant/question.



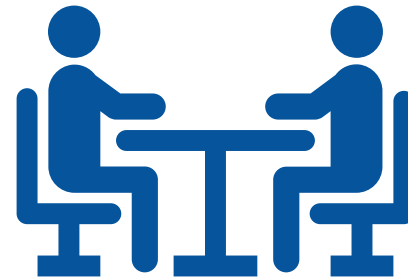
# How to Discuss Monthly Discussion Questions with Your Chapters & Classes



## Discussion Pairs

- Have members pair up to discuss each question then report out as a group.

**Time required:** 5 minutes per question in pairs, 2-3 minutes per pair for report out.



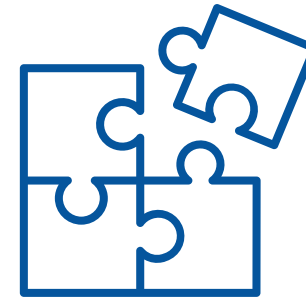
# How to Discuss Monthly Discussion Questions with Your Chapters & Classes



## Simple Jigsaw

- Break into small groups and assign each group to read one of the recommend readings.
- From there you'll come together as a group and discuss questions from the viewpoint of each group's unique reading.

**Time required:** 15 minutes to read and discuss in small groups; 25 minutes for whole group discussion.



The Monthly Discussion Guides reference 3 sources to provide recommend taking the time to review the following resources for more information on how to approach difficult conversations in a constructive and meaningful way:

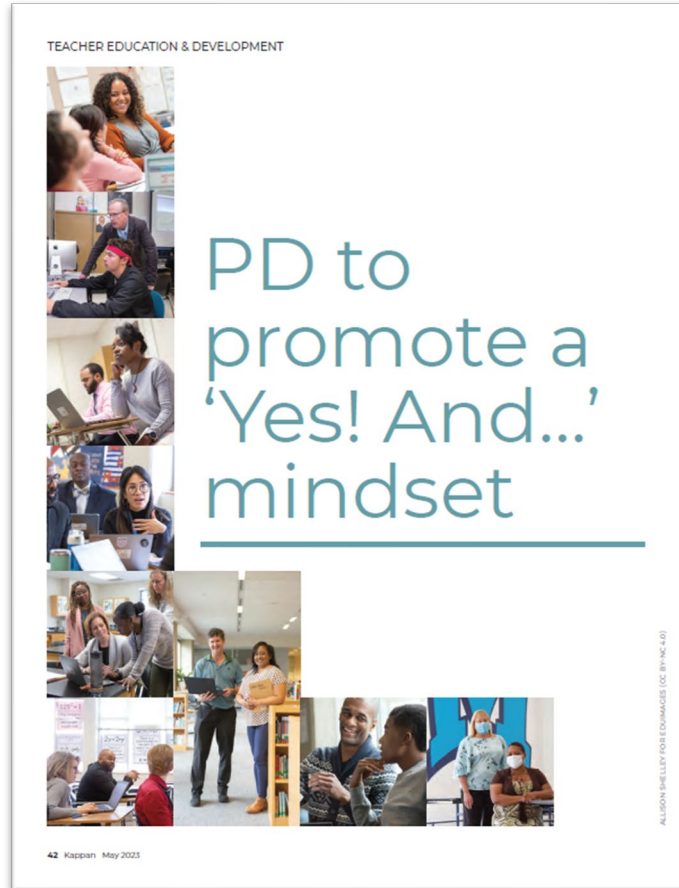
- **“Difficult Dialogues”** from the Center for Teaching at Vanderbilt University
- **“14 Ways To Approach Conflict And Difficult Conversations At Work”** from the Forbes Coaches Council
- **“The 10 R’s of Talking About Race: How to Have Meaningful Conversations”** from the Net Impact Blog by Dwight Smith

Updated link: <https://netimpact.org/blog/talking-about-race>

# Managing Difficult Conversations



# Kappan Discussion Guide – May 2023



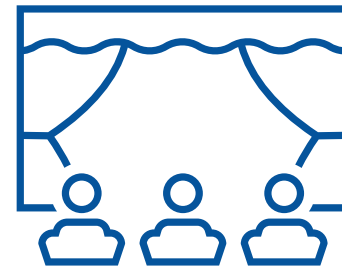
In the “Teacher Education and Development” *Kappan* Issue

By Aleta Margolis

# Background



Teacher professional development and training sessions that rely on PowerPoints, lectures, and standard presentations often are not engaging to teachers and are irrelevant to their daily work. The world of improv theater can inspire teachers and help them grow in ways that meet students' needs. Both improv actors and teachers must react to unexpected events by saying “**Yes! And...**” Instead of shutting off new ideas, they build on them to create something better.



## New Insights



- Skilled improvisers and teachers **both welcome surprise** and **use unexpected events** to fuel their work.
- Being able to react to the unexpected **requires preparation and practice**.
- Instead of requiring teachers to re-create their classrooms and curricula, **effective professional development** helps them incorporate **new strategies into what they're already doing**.
- **Improv-based professional development** gives teachers **opportunities to engage in activities** they can use in their classrooms.

## Discussion Questions



## Discussion Pairs

1. What do you see as some of the benefits and limitations of the “Yes! And...” mindset that Margolis describes?
2. When have you seen a teacher use an unexpected event, question, or student action to spark more learning?
3. Why might some teachers choose to block new ideas instead of building on them?
4. How can teachers balance the need to cover certain material with their desire to follow students’ lead?
5. What kinds of preparation and support might teachers need to be able to adopt a “Yes! And...” mindset?

# *Thank You for Joining Us Today!*

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For General Questions: [info@educatorsrising.org](mailto:info@educatorsrising.org)

For Curriculum Inquiries: [community@educatorsrising.org](mailto:community@educatorsrising.org)

For Implementation Support: [programs@educatorsrising.org](mailto:programs@educatorsrising.org)

800-766-1156

[educatorsrising.org](http://educatorsrising.org)