**Kelly Gallagher’s Writing Group Procedure**

\*Important to model an effective group first. Consider having fellow ELA teachers model the process and either videotape or conduct a writing group in front of all students.

1. Distribute copy of self-selected piece to each member.
2. Person sharing determines levels of response (bless, address, press)
3. Cut plain white paper into four squares. Put big stack in center of table.
4. Remind all students that the goal of writing group is to make the paper better.
5. Writing group listens with pen in hand taking notes on paper around level requested.
6. Then, group takes turns reading comments aloud.
7. Writer is not allowed to comment until the end.
8. Staple comments on paper. Writer can return down the road to the work.

\*Takes 5 students about 50 minutes. If you have less time, you may need to reduce group size.

\*Kelly has writing groups meet every Thursday. Most weeks he does not determine the topic.