

Sumner County Schools Book Studies

There are four approved book study options:

1. *Group Discussion Board*
2. *Face-to-Face Group Collaborative*
3. *Independent Study*
4. *Districtwide Discussion Board*

All SCS book studies will have these commonalities:

- Principals designate a book study facilitator (principal, assistant principal, lead educator, teacher leader, department chair, etc.) to coordinate and evaluate the online discussions or lead face-to-face collaboratives
- Utilizing the book's contents, responses and prompts should:
 - be detailed and observable
 - push participants to link specifics and expand participant pedagogy
 - take actionable steps toward classroom instruction
- All book studies will be ongoing over the course of multiple meetings or discussion posts and responses
- There is a cap of six professional Learning (PL) hours per school year for book study participation
- Only full credit for the completion of the entire book study will be given
- Additional PL hours or extended contract hours can be earned for facilitating a book study (contact the Teacher Center for specific details)
- Require principal approval for principal-discretion days (Required PL Days 4 or 5)
- Book studies are completed, and all paperwork is submitted to the Teacher Center on or before **March 15**

Criteria for book studies:

1. *School-based Group Discussion Board*

Description: *Option 1 will offer a school-based, group book study through an online discussion board. Participants will take an in-depth look into the components of principal-approved books through answers and responses to prompts by a book study facilitator(s).*

- A minimum of three sectional writing prompts is required from the educator's perspective. Each prompt should address approximately one third of the book.
- In addition to the three sectional prompts, a final application prompt will connect the book to the following:
 - *immediate next steps* (in the next three weeks);
 - *long-term next steps* (next semester or next year).
- All responses should include multiple textual references with page citations.
- All components of the SCS book studies commonalities are met.
- A *Book Study Completion Form* is submitted to the Teacher Center upon the conclusion of the book study. Sign-in sheets from any optional face-to-face meetings that might be held during the book study should accompany the *Book Study Completion Form*.

2. ***Face-to-Face Group Collaborative***

Description: *Option 2 will be a school-based, group book study through face-to-face interactions. Participants will take an in-depth look into the components of principal-approved books through answers and responses to prompts by a book study facilitator(s).*

- A minimum of one hour in length is required for all collaborative meetings.
- A minimum of four hours of contact time should be spread over the course of at least three ongoing meetings (e.g. hour durations of: 1-1-1-1; 1-1-2; 1-2-1; 2-1-1).
- The facilitator will prompt discussions that connect the book's specifics to prompts identified in the SCS book study commonalities.
- Each participant will complete a written component that connects the book to the following:
 - *immediate next steps* (in the next three weeks);
 - *long-term next steps* (next semester or next year).
- Conversations should include multiple textual references with page citations.
- All components of the SCS book studies commonalities are met.
- A *Book Study Completion Form* is submitted to the Teacher Center upon the conclusion of the book study. Sign-in sheets from all face-to-face meetings held during the book study and all written responses from each participating teacher should accompany the *Book Study Completion Form*.

3. ***Independent Study***

Description: *Option 3 will be an independent book study facilitated by the Teacher Center.*

Participants will take an in-depth look into the components of principal-approved books through answers and responses to prompts by a Teacher Center facilitator(s).

- Before a book study begins, a *Book Study Form*, approved by the principal, is submitted to the Teacher Center
- At the end of the book study, a copy of the book and a hard copy of the educator's written responses will be submitted to the Teacher Center. The book will be returned to the principal.
- The template for the independent book study is as follows:
 - Write a summary of the book including
 - The major theme of the author and
 - Three specific examples, case studies, and/or applications that the educator found particularly interesting or relevant and why. This should include the page numbers on which the examples are found.
 - Choose three of the chapters in the book to explore. A detailed for each chapter paragraph should explore following:
 - How does this chapter relate to the author's central theme and/or purpose?
 - How is this chapter's content directly applicable to his/her individual classroom?
 - Select two chapters to dig deeper and develop a paragraph for each that connects the book to the following:
 - *immediate next steps* (in the next three weeks);
 - *long-term next steps* (next semester or next year).
- Contact the Teacher Center for more information.

4. ***Districtwide Discussion Board***

Description: *Option 4 will offer multiple districtwide, group book studies through an online discussion board. Participants will take an in-depth look into the components of books approved by the Professional Growth Supervisor through answers and responses to prompts by a Teacher Center book study facilitator(s).*

- Search ***Sumner County Schools PL*** for *Districtwide Book Study* options or contact the Teacher Center for more information.