



## Conferences as Conversations

*Powerful facilitation questions adapted from Carl Anderson's [How's It Going?](#)*

### Get the conversation started

- How's it going?
- What are you doing as a writer today?
- What work are you doing as a writer this period?
- What do you need help with today?

### Nudge students to say more

- Could you say more about this?
- What do you mean by...?
- Could you explain what you mean by...?

### Use knowledge of what good writers do

- Have you planned out your draft?
- What's the focus of your piece?
- What kinds of revisions have you made?

### Investigate students' strategies

- How are you going to do this work?
- What strategies are you going to use to do this work?
- How are you planning to get started with your draft?

### Use knowledge from past work

- Have you done some of the revision work you tried in your last piece?
- How did you pick the idea for your draft this time?

### Connect to the mini-lesson

- Have you tried what we talked about in the mini-lesson today?
- Remember how we talked yesterday in the mini-lesson about revision strategies? Have you used any of them to help you revise?