

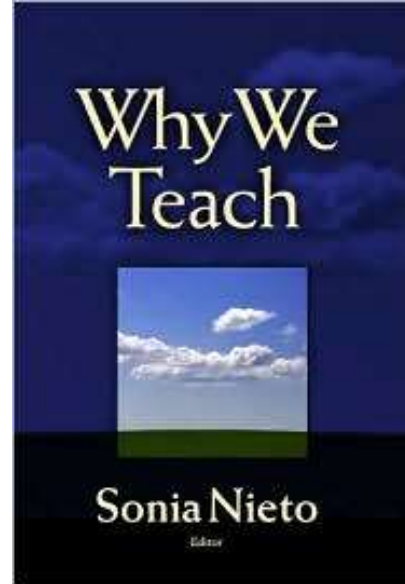
**Activity 5. Why We Teach**

Why We Teach

Nieto, S. (Ed.), 2005. Why We Teach. New York: Teacher's College Press.

From the Introduction:

When asked, many say they became teachers for reasons that sound old-fashioned and seem at odds with the current national obsession with bureaucracy, accountability and high-stakes testing. In general, they view teaching as a 'calling' and they are driven by a sense of service."
(p.3)



1. Why did you choose to become a teacher?
2. Are those reasons still intact? Have you found new reasons for teaching?
3. How do your reasons for teaching support the changing realities of the schoolhouse, such as changing demographics, higher standards, the goal of closing the achievement gap, more challenging pathways to post-school success for many students, and so on?
4. As schools become more engaged in social justice and equity for all students, how do your personal reasons for teaching support these goals?
5. What support or supports do you need from your campus leadership to meet these challenges for equity for all students?
6. What must teachers commit to personally in order to meet these challenges?