DATA DIVE PROTOCOL
How to explore data as a team to find your next opportunity

1. COMPARE TO STANDARD
Some data points come with a target as a point of reference. Where is the observed outcome relative to the expectation? If defined proficiency levels are available, what are the ranges?

2. COMPARE TO SELF'S PAST
Does the student have prior data for this measure? Where is the observed outcome relative to prior performance? What's normal for the student?

3. COMPARE TO GROUP'S PAST
What's normal for this grade level? What do the outcomes look like in aggregate (percent, median, mean, mode)? What about past aggregates?

4. COMPARE TO SIMILAR OTHERS
Challenge biases and narratives by finding comparison group that are similar, but at a different school. What is consistent between locations? What varies? This comparison may serve to extend PLCs to include other schools.

5. LOOK FOR INCONSISTENCIES
If teams, grades, teachers, or other groups produce consistent outcomes, it's a good sign. If there are inconsistencies, those may lead to opportunities. Some variation is natural, and a pattern is a clearer signal than a single instance.