When accomplished STEM teachers facilitate productive whole class discussions, they may do one or more of the following:

Explicitly establish, refer to, and/or maintain norms that support whole class discussion (T31)				
Justify the importance of whole class discussions as a powerful STEM learning strategy (T56)				
Provide clear expectations for how every student is accountable to the whole group's work (T60)				
Provide language support structures (e.g., sentence stems, word lists, etc.) (T66) ❖ Δ *				
Ask many "why?" questions that require justification or elaboration (T2)				
Ask probing questions and follow-up questions of all students (T5)*				
Ask questions of the whole class (not only to individual students) (T7)				
Avoid explaining or evaluating models, arguments, and ideas for students (T23) Δ^*				
Avoid focusing on right and wrong answers (T24)				
Avoid standing in a place of authority (e.g., the front of the room) or standing at all (T26)				
Model active listening (T36)				
Make clear that all student ideas are "fair game" for examination and discussion (T58) $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $				
Pause discussions to name instances in which valued norms are being upheld appropriately (T72)				
Invite and expect all students to ask questions about each others' ideas (T78) $lacktriangle$ Δ *				
Manage and direct the discussion only when appropriate, and always toward clear learning goals (T90)				
Restate or summarize student ideas, as appropriate (T121)				
Support students discussing similarities and differences among ideas/thinking (T129)				
Work to facilitate students taking up and building on each others' ideas (T131)				
Quickly weigh the benefits, costs, and implications of focusing on some students' ideas over others (T153) Δ				
Provide whole-group feedback on the quality, nature, and/or structure of a discussion (T67)				

In these classrooms we expect to see a diverse range of students...

Asking questions of the teacher and other students to clarify their own thinking (S11) $lacktriangle$ Δ
Relying on each other instead of or before relying on the teacher (S16) Δ
Respectfully interrupting each other (S17) Δ
Spontaneously volunteering ideas without prompting from the teacher (S39) 🗘 *
Spontaneously comparing and contrasting each others' ideas (S38) Δ
Using language support structures (e.g., sentence stems, word lists, etc.) to start and participate in small group
conversation (S40) Δ^*
Adjusting the physical environment or their place in it to better support their learning (e.g., moving their desk
closer to a peer) (S44)

When accomplished STEM teachers facilitate productive whole class discussions, they may do one or more of the following:

ALWAYS		STRATEGICALLY	
More Straightforward:	More Challenging:	More Straightforward:	More Challenging:
Ask many "why?" questions that require justification or elaboration (T2) Ask probing questions and follow-up questions of all students (T5)* Avoid standing in a place of authority (e.g., the front of the room) or standing at all (T26)	Avoid explaining or evaluating models, arguments, and ideas for students (T23) Δ* Avoid focusing on right and wrong answers (T24) Manage and direct the discussion only when appropriate, and always toward clear learning goals (T90)	Trovide language support structures (e.g., sentence stems, word lists, etc.) (T66)	Explicitly establish, refer to, and/or maintain norms that support whole class discussion (T31) Justify the importance of whole class discussions as a powerful STEM learning strategy (T56) Invite and expect all students to ask questions about each others' ideas (T78) ② Δ* Support students discussing similarities and differences among ideas/thinking (T129) Work to facilitate students taking up and building on each others' ideas (T131) Quickly weigh the benefits, costs, and implications of focusing on some students' ideas over others (T153) Δ Restate or summarize student ideas, as appropriate (T121)

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