

## Team Building and Grade Check in - Monday 1/27

The Basics	Objectives	Start Here
Grade 9 - 12 Theme: Self-Discovery Duration: 15-20 Minutes	Students reflect on their academic progress for 1st semester.	Dialogue about strengths and accomplishments encourages students to reflect on these areas and generate ideas that will help them find success.

### REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:

1. Team Building Activity: Add Five -
  - a. Break your students into groups of five and give them a piece of paper with the beginning of a story. Each group adds five words to the story as they pass the story paper around. You can start with "I got to school early, and was shocked to find..." or "I stayed late at school one night, and couldn't find my..." Have the story paper go around the room several times (you can predetermine a number according to how much time you have), and teachers have to make sure the story has a good conclusion. Share stories at the end!. *Skills: Communication; creative collaboration*
2. Academic Check in
  - a. Excellent tool for identifying and monitoring red flags and action steps
  - b. Can help build a relationship with your students
3. Have students complete the Academic Check in Graphic Organizer (This can be done in advance)
4. Suggested conversation starters when discussing attendance, grades, and courses....
  - a. I noticed that last semester you excelled in Math, but this semester your grades have slipped. Talk to me about what you think is behind this. Did anything change for you that might have chased your grade to drop?
  - b. I noticed you were absent \_\_\_\_\_ times. Talk to me about this. What are the reasons for our absences (health reasons, family obligations, lack of motivation, ect). Let's try to get to the bottom of this.
  - c. Is there an adult or peer in the building whom you feel comfortable going to for support. If not, is there someone outside of school who you can talk to?
  - d. What do you need to do in school to become (students's self identified goal)?

- e. For students with good grades: What's the key to your success? If you were giving advice to someone with struggling grades, what would you tell them?
- f. For students with poor grades: I noticed you are struggling. Let's talk about what is happening? What are some simple, realistic things you think you can do differently so that your grades improve?
- g. How do you feel about taking tests? Do you get nervous? How do you usually do on tests?

5. Best practices:

- a. Be Persistent - It is important to not move on from an identified problem until you fully understand the issue and an action plan is developed.
- b. Shift the focus of the conversation each quarter.
- c. Always identify the action steps. There is a tendency to talk about challenges or aspirations and then leave it at that. It is crucially important to develop a plan with the student.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Checking in on graduation progress

Let's check in!

What are your grades like? List all the classes you have periods 1-7.

Fill in your grades for mid-term and Semester 1 when prompted.

Class Name Semester 1	Mid-term grades S1	Semester 1 grade	Class Name Semester 2	Mid-term grades S2	Semester 2 grade
Totals:					

What do you notice about your grades from mid-term to semester?

For every semester class you passed you will earn .5 credit.

How many Credits do you have now? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you On Track to Graduate or Off Track? \_\_\_\_\_

What's your plan to get back On Track if you are Off Track? \_\_\_\_\_

How many F's do you have for Semester 1 -- \_\_\_\_\_

What's your attendance like for each class? Fill in the number of classes you have missed for each period of the day. Add up the number of absences in the bottom row.

Class Name Semester 1	Semester 1 Attendance	Class Name Semester 2	Semester 2 Attendance
Totals:			

## Goals for Semester 2

Mark all the goals that you are willing to commit to do for yourself this semester – remember these goals are for you, and not your teacher to accomplish! Sign and date your commitment to yourself below:

Academic Goals → I will do.....

\_\_\_\_\_ Spend 2 days a week meeting with teachers during before school, during lunch or after school.

\_\_\_\_\_ Spend 1 day a week meeting with teachers during before school, during lunch or after school.

\_\_\_\_\_ Increase my study/homework time commitment each **night** by \_\_\_\_\_ hour(s).

\_\_\_\_\_ Increase my study/homework time commitment each **weekend** by \_\_\_\_\_ hour(s).

\_\_\_\_\_ Increase my grade in (F to D, D to C, C to B, B to A) \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Improve my attendance by committing to: (perfect attendance, minus illness, is a suggestion) \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Meet with my Academic Advisor to discuss my On Track/Off Track to Graduate Status.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: