OWNERSHIP OF LEARNING

LESSON 7-20 ▲ STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES: HOW DID I DO?

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Identify the strengths and challenges of their student-led conference
* List five ways to improve their student-led conference next year in 8th grade
* Define five benefits to student-led conferences

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Planning for 8th Grade Student-led Conferences
* Journal Page
* **Materials to Support Student-led Conference.** For example, MS and Beyond Plans, student work samples, along with selected items such as transcripts, current grades, Interest Inventories and any other pertinent documentation.
* **Student-led Conference Presentation Rubric** (completed by parents during the conference)

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Students are congratulated on completing their first student-led conference for middle school.** Congratulate students on their accomplishment. Student-led conferences are an important part of their education. Remind students that one of the best ways to improve any skill or activity is to take some time to reflect on past experiences. Ask students if they had any really ‘cool’ experiences during their conference. Did anything funny happen? Where their parents impressed with all they have accomplished?
2. **Students reflect on their preparedness.** Have students look at their journal reflection activity from Lesson 7-19:

***Q1:*** Which two pieces of advice will best help me improve my presentation?

***Q2:*** How can I best make these changes to my presentation?

Ask students to reread their response in their journal. Did their partner’s advice help them? What if they were to give the superstar some advice for speaking in public? What would they tell them, based on their experience with their student-led conference?

1. **Students identify personal strengths and challenges from their recent student-led conference.** Provide students with the *Planning for 8th Grade Student-led Conferences* Handout. Tell students that they will be presenting at student-led conferences in 8th grade as well. In order to improve, they need to do some thinking right after their 7th grade conference so they don’t forget what worked and what didn’t. Have students fill out all sections of the handout.
2. **Students discuss presentation improvement ideas with other students.** Ask students to select one of their SLC improvement plans for 8th grade. Have students stand up and find one or two other students with the same idea. Ask students tell group members what happened in their SLC that led to the improvement idea, and have each group discuss ways that the improvement idea could be achieved. Repeat this exercise with a different idea and different students at least once more.
3. **Pairs of students identify five benefits to student-led conferences.** Have students remain in their group they are sitting with. Tell students that you are going to give them one minute to brainstorm as many different benefits to student-led conferences as possible. Set a timer and have students begin. After one minute, have them put their names on top of the list, pass their list to the group to the right and give them another minute to add to their new list. If the first group had information that they already used on their first list, then they must come up with at least one new benefit. After repeating this five times, return the lists to the original owners. Lead a class discussion on the top five benefits of student-led conferencing.
4. **Students consider an occupation that utilizes public speaking or performing.** Tell students that most public speakers started out just as nervous as everyone else. However, those people decided to develop their presentation and interview skills, recognizing the high importance in our society. What occupations have they considered that might require them to do presentations, public speaking or performing? They might be surprised to know how many different jobs require people to use public speaking skills. For the careers they are considering, what speaking or interviewing skills are involved? Ask students to write their thoughts on these questions in their Journal Page.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *Planning for 8th Grade Student-led Conferences* Worksheet**
* **Completed *Journal Page***

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LESSON 7-20 STUDENT HANDOUT

PLANNING FOR 8TH GRADE STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES WORKSHEET

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Strengths** | **Challenges** |
|  |  |

**Looking forward to 8th Grade, I will make sure to work on:**

**The best part of my family’s involvement in my conference was:**

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LESSON 7-20 STUDENT HANDOUT

 JOURNAL PAGE

**DATE:**

**Lesson 7-20 | *STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES – HOW DID I DO?***

***Q1:*** Name five occupations that you find interesting. List the types of speaking (at meetings, in small groups, in large groups), interviewing, and/or reporting that you believe are regular parts of those jobs.

***Answers:***