

Lesson 1. Setting Goals to Promote a Positive School Climate

SpeakOut with Advocatr Curriculum

Learning Outcome

- Articulate feelings about the school's climate
- Practice describing the school's climate, listening to classmates' feelings about the school climate, and setting a personal goal for improving the school climate

Materials

- PowerPoint
- Handout 1
- Handout 2 (students)
- Handout 2 (teachers)
- Handout 3

Vocabulary

- School Climate

Preparation

Have ready a container with pieces of paper to allow students to draw numbers and find a partner. Number pieces of paper 1 to (class size/2) with each number represented twice. [If on-line: set up breakout rooms with random assignment.]

Lesson Plan

 Total Time: 30 min

5 min

Content

Warm up **partner activity**: *With the person sitting next to you, read through the list of words and try to come up with additional words to describe our school's climate. The term "school climate" means how we feel about this school community.*

Materials/Notes

Handout 1,
PowerPoint slide #2:
Handout 1 (Word List)

10 min

Content

Materials/Notes

Informal circle discussion: *I will ask a question, and then we'll go around the circle so that everyone has a chance to respond to the question. Only one person speaks at a time. When someone speaks, everyone else listens. If you don't want to speak, you can say "pass." I'll try to respond to the prompts as well.*

Ask students to stand in a circle.

Prompt 1: In one word, how would you describe our school's overall climate?

PowerPoint slide #3

Prompt 2: What do you like best about being at our school?

Prompt 3: What do you like least about being at our school?

10 min

Content

Materials/Notes

Partner activity: *Draw a number out of this container and find the person who drew the same number.*

PowerPoint slide #4:
Handout 2

- 1. With your partner go over the items on the handout and record your partner's answers. Switch roles so that both of you get to respond. [Briefly go over the items.]*
- 2. Complete the goal statement based on what you have learned from your partner. I will also write up a goal statement based on what I heard during the circle discussion.*

PowerPoint slide #5: Goal Statement

5 min

Content

Materials/Notes

Sharing Out:

Would anyone like to share their goals statement? [You can read your goal statement first if students are reluctant to volunteer.]

⇒ Extension or Alternate Activity

🕒 Total Time: 10 min

☰ Preparation

Pair students up as described above and give them handout 3.

Materials: PowerPoint slide #6: Handout 3

10 min

Content

Partner Work: [Pair students up as described above and give them Handout 3.] *“Take a look at this handout. We’ll learn about all these concepts. Together with your partner, take a few minutes to complete the sentences on the handout.*

I’ll do the same.

Please leave your completed handout with me. At the end of the year, we’ll do the same activity again and then we’ll see what we have learned.”

Materials/Notes

PowerPoint slide #6:
Handout 3