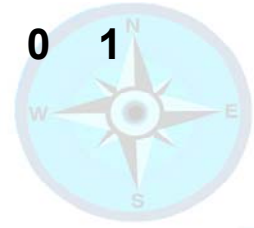

N A V I G A T I O N 1 0 1

GRADE: 8

LESSON: 3

THEME: IMPROVING ACADEMICALLY



LESSON GOALS:

- Help students reflect on their classes this year and on assessments they've taken.
- Help students develop an **Academic Goal** (leads to Annual Goals).

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- How am I doing?
- How can I do better?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- **Academic Goal Worksheet** (*next page of this lesson plan – one copy for each student*)
- **Information about online student grades or records programs** (*from your lead advisor*)
- **Students' 7th grade WASL scores** (*or other assessments, if desired*)

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES:

1. **Review opportunities for students to keep track of their work.** Does your school district offer a tool for students and parents to access their school records electronically or on paper? If so, remind students how to use it, and provide information to parents. Explain that it's important for students to have a good sense of how they're doing in school. That way they won't risk falling too far behind without realizing it. (*5-10 minutes*)
2. **Discuss students' academic performance this year.** What have students learned about their performance so far? What do their WASL scores from last year tell them? What about other assessments? More generally, what do they think of 8th grade classes? How are they doing? Why? What do they think would help them do better in their classes this year? (*5-10 minutes*)
3. **Have students develop Academic Goals.** Distribute the **Academic Goal Worksheet**. Ask students to complete the goal statement with one goal for 8th grade. Let them know that these goals should be based on how they are doing so far this year. These goals are meant to help them continue their progress from 7th grade. **Please collect these.** (*5-10 minutes*)

STUDENT PRODUCTS:

- **Academic Goal.** Each student should develop an academic goal. Please save for Lesson 5.



ACADEMIC GOAL WORKSHEET – Gr 8



Name: _____ Grade: _____ Advisor: _____

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE THIS YEAR?

You're now in your final year of middle school. What do you want to achieve before graduation?

How are you doing in your classes so far? What about the assessment exams you've taken?

Based on that information, think of your biggest academic goal for this year. Do you want to...

- Get a certain GPA (say, 3.0)?
- Pass all your classes?
- Do all your homework?
- Meet standard on all sections of the WASL next spring?
- Get into an honors class?
- Learn another language?

What do you want to do? Please write at least one goal below for your academic achievements this year.

Remember that your goal should be "SMART," that is:

- **Specific** rather than general (*Such as: "I want to get a 3.0 GPA this year"*).
- **Measurable** by what you will do during the year (*by grades or test scores, for instance*).
- **Achievable** or realistic for 8th grade.
- **Rewarding** so that you will feel you've accomplished something.
- **Time-oriented** and able to be finished by the end of the school year.

ACADEMIC GOAL:

While I am in 8th grade, I want to _____ . This will help me succeed academically because _____

