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

GRADE: 8

LESSON: 20

THEME: MAKING THE TRANSITION

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## LESSON GOALS:

- Review students' experiences in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Present students with their completed middle school portfolios.
- Celebrate!

## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- What do I want to do next year?
- How can I succeed?

## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- **Students' Portfolios** (*decide, with your lead advisor, whether you will pass on students' complete portfolios to the high school or present students' portfolios to them to save at home. Note that it is suggested that the high school keep the materials from the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Presentation and that students keep the rest of the materials from their portfolios.*)

## CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES:

1. **Review the year.** Look back at the middle school years. Discuss with students what they thought was best – and worst – about middle school. Did advisory help? Why or why not? What advice would they give to incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders about succeeding in middle school? What did they learn this year? Where did they make progress? If you have been taking photos of advisory activities, you may want to show a slide show documenting the last three years. If you will be sending their portfolios home, you may want to formally present them to each student. (*5 minutes*)
2. **Plan for next year.** What challenges and opportunities will next year bring? Discuss what your students can expect next year when they begin high school. How will they get involved in clubs, activities, or leadership positions? What classes will they be taking? (*5 minutes*)
3. **Celebrate.** You might want to celebrate with pizza or other treats. (*10-15 minutes*)

## STUDENT PRODUCTS:

- **Completed portfolios.** Each student's portfolio should be either: (a) passed along to the high school; or (b) presented to students to take home and save (with the exception of students' materials from their 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Presentations, which should stay at the high school).

