



High School

Begin with the End in Mind

Materials:

- Worksheet (2 pages)
- Sample mission statements (optional)

Brainstorm

What does the phrase “begin with the end in mind” mean to you?

Discuss

As student volunteers share their responses, clarify or confirm responses, including: Being able to think of solutions for a problem, achieving your goals, etc. Continue to facilitate the class discussion as long as it remains productive and on topic.

Dive in!

Stephen Covey is author of the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Habit #2 is: Begin with the end in mind. As high school students, it can be difficult to think of your life in 5, 10, 15, or more years from now. But if you don’t visualize who you are and what you want in life, then it will be difficult to achieve those goals. Just thinking about what your life will be like isn’t enough. You have to work to make it happen. Developing a personal mission statement can help. A personal mission statement is a brief statement about what is important to you. It can help you identify what you want to be and do. It helps you focus on your purpose and goals and imagine your future! Display the school or district mission statement and have a student volunteer read it aloud. Ask students what the mission statement says about the school/district.

Activity

Distribute copies of the worksheet to students. Explain: Today we are going to work to create our own personal mission statements. Walk through each step of the mission statement template. Call on student volunteers to read some of the sample statements. Then provide students with enough time to create their own mission statement independently. If time allows, call on student volunteers to share their personal mission statements.

Reflect



High School

To wrap up the lesson question, ask students verbally if they think developing a personal mission statement will help them to achieve their vision of themselves in 20 years.

Extend and Enrich

- Franklin Covey Mission Statement Builder: msb.franklincovey.com/missions/personal/