

Strategies to Support Aspirations

The teacher-generated strategies below support students on their Aspirations journeys. Remember that the quadrants are fluid—a student may appear to be in Hibernation at one point during a class or semester, yet Aspiration at another time.

IMAGINATION	ASPIRATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set short-term and long-term SMART goals • Help students categorize, distinguish fact or opinion, and determine fantasy vs. realism • Provide time for students to draw, build, create AND connect it all to lessons • Use rubrics to help students understand what they need to learn to succeed • Celebrate students' effort and incremental successes • Share stories of how young people make dreams a reality • Model strategies for organizing work and breaking down assignments in order to meet deadlines • Involve students in hands-on learning • Incorporate technology in lessons • Teach students about metaphors • Apply skills students are learning to real-life problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate metacognitive activities and strategies • Assign students responsibilities for peer teaching • Help students develop their public speaking and presentation skills • Assist students with publishing their writing, art work, websites, etc. • Encourage students to enter academic contests • Develop students' problem-solving skills • Seek out school-wide leadership opportunities and discuss what makes a leader • Ensure students are challenged, but not frustrated • Involve students in service learning
HIBERNATION	PERSPIRATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize culturally relevant strategies • Use project-based learning • Use students' names, interests, and prior knowledge • Build relationships with students • Ensure assignments are appropriately challenging—not too easy or too hard • Chunk work to make it less overwhelming • Set up achievable short-term goals (hourly, daily, weekly) with students • Provide choice in assignments • Foster peer support • Re-evaluate the setup of your classroom • Use gaming strategies • Include student-selected topics of study • Provide guided notetaking templates • Take real and virtual field trips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage students to sketch/doodle/journal • Clearly state the purpose of lessons and units of study • Teach and provide time for student reflection • Ensure homework has a clear purpose • Take brain breaks with your students • Verbally reward effort and hard work • Support and encourage divergent thinkers • Engage in improv games • Ask students to articulate the purpose of a lesson/subject • Include student-led projects • Provide non-graded assignments • Use collaborative learning • Utilize vision boards • Fuel divergent thinking