



Profile of a Student Activity for Small Groups

Developed by Gene Thompson-Grove.

First Read the student profiles and identify the student that most accurately describes who you were as a student in high school. If several fit (this will be true for many of you), choose the one that affected you the most, or the one that now seems most significant as you look back at your high school experience. (5 minutes)

Then, without using the number of the student profile, ask your colleagues questions to find the people who chose the same profile you did. (5 minutes)

Directions for Small Groups

1. Choose a facilitator/timer and a recorder/reporter.
2. Check to see if you really are all the same student. Then, talk about your school experiences together. What was it like to be this kind of student? Each person in the group should have an opportunity to talk, uninterrupted, for 2 minutes.
3. Next, each person in the group privately identifies an actual student, by name, who fits the group's profile. (about 5 minutes)
Write (in your journal):
 - What have I done with this student?
 - What's worked? What hasn't?
 - What else could I do?
4. Finally, talk as a group about what people need to know about students like you if they want you to learn at high levels and do meaningful work. (about 15 minutes)
List on newsprint:
 - Things others need to know about students like you, and
 - Strategies that work to give students like you opportunities to learn at high levels and to do meaningful work.

Recorder/reporter should write on the newsprint, and should be ready to report out succinctly in the large group. Be sure to put your Student Profile number at the top of the newsprint page.

5. Whole group debriefing (after hearing from each Student Profile group):
 - What strikes you as you listen to the needs of these students?
 - Listen for the silences. What are they, and what do you make of them?