**LESSON GOALS:**

- Discuss progress with postsecondary applications and review or write a personal statement.
- Help students assess their work and develop an **Academic Inventory** and fill out checklist.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- How am I doing?
- Am I preparing for life after high school?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- **Grade Tracking Sheet** (*From portfolios*)
- **Postsecondary Checklist** (*final pages of this lesson plan*)
- **Academic Inventory Handout** (*next page of this lesson plan*)

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES:

1. **Discuss current academic performance.** Discuss students' current classes and their progress toward graduation. Update **Grade Tracking Sheet**. Ask students how they are doing in their classes and what has contributed to their performance in their classes. Have students check their credits and ensure they are on track to graduate in the spring. Ensure that all students have passed the WASL as required.
2. **Discuss the postsecondary application process or personal statements.** Students should be in the midst of working on postsecondary applications. Discuss how they are doing. Distribute the **Postsecondary Checklist** and ask students to update the checklist. Students must redo or write a personal statement/college admissions essay with this assignment.
3. **Have students develop Academic Inventories.** Distribute a copy of the **Academic Inventory** to each student. Help students complete the handout and develop a plan to improve their academic performance, prepare for graduation, and prepare for postsecondary education. This is also a written piece and students will need some time to complete both of today's assignments.

STUDENT PRODUCTS:

- **Academic Inventory.** Each student should complete an Academic Inventory and file it in the Academic Development section of his or her portfolio.
- **Postsecondary Checklist.** Each students should complete a checklist and essay and turn them in.

NAVIGATION 101

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ACADEMIC INVENTORY – Gr 12



Name: _____ Grade: _____ Advisor: _____

Please use information about your grades to answer the questions on this handout. This should be a multi-paragraph response, which may be hand written or typed.

Paragraph 1: HOW ARE YOU DOING IN YOUR CLASSES THIS YEAR?

1. Please list your classes, the current grades for each, and explain whether you think you are doing well in each one.
2. Make sure to give reasons for your answers.
3. In which classes are you doing the best?
4. Are you surprised at how well you are doing?
5. Why do you think you are doing so well?
6. In which classes do you need to improve?
7. Are you surprised that you aren't doing as well as you expected? Explain.

Paragraph 2: WHAT FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR PERFORMANCE?

1. Please explain the factors that are contributing to your current grades (studying at home or at school, finding new ways to study to manage your workload, turning in homework/assignments on time, attending class, working with a tutor at school, getting extra help from a teacher, attending a catch-up study session, other...).

Paragraph 3: WHAT IS YOUR PLAN TO IMPROVE?

1. How can you strengthen your academic performance?
2. Give specific ways you can improve or maintain your grades.

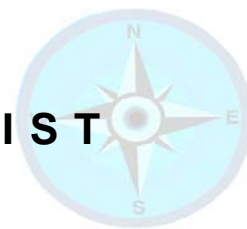
PLEASE FILE THIS IN THE ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTION OF YOUR PORTFOLIO



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POSTSECONDARY CHECKLIST



Name: _____ Grade: _____ Advisor: _____

Education I am pursuing (*check as many as apply*):

- Apprenticeship – Length, details: _____
- Two-year degree (AA or AS) – Major: _____
- Four-year degree (BA or BS) – Major: _____
- Postgraduate degree – Describe: _____

Postsecondary institutions I am applying to:

Application tasks I am working on (*please check all that apply*):

Assessment tests (*registered for or completed*):

- SAT Reasoning
- SAT Subject Tests
- ASSET/COMPASS
- ACT
- ASVAB

Financial Aid

- Working on FAFSA
- Have identified at least one scholarship

Applications

- Have obtained applications
- Have begun work on applications
- Have a draft of personal statement

Letters of Recommendation

- Have identified people for recommendations
- Have given materials to these people

Personal Statement: If you have not done so already, please write a 500-word sample college admissions essay on a personal accomplishment, future goals, influences on your life, or a past achievement. If you have written one, simply update that one.

Remember that your essay will be read by someone at a college who does not know you. How can you present yourself in a way that will make your story interesting to that person?

Make sure to follow all the rules of good writing you've learned over the years: correct grammar and punctuation, a strong opening "hook," and smooth transitions between ideas.

