

# Student Voice & Aspirations Services and Resources

#### STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

# YEAR 1 Amplifying Student Voice & Aspirations

#### Session 1 Introduction to Student Voice

What is student voice? Why does voice matter? Understanding the complexity and definition of voice is essential for implementing strategies that amplify student voice. Participants in this session will learn the definition of voice, explore the difference between noise and voice, examine instructional strategies that foster voice, and begin to develop concrete action plans that will lay a foundation for the Student Voice & Aspirations learning journey.

## Session 2 The Aspirations Profile

In schools, we often challenge our students to dream. Dream bigger! Yet simply dreaming is not enough. Aspirations is defined as the ability to dream and set goals for the future while being inspired in the present to reach those dreams. We will examine strategies for supporting students who are in a state of Hibernation, Imagination, and Perspiration, with the goal of helping all students achieve their aspirations. Participants will consider how to attain a healthy balance of dreaming and doing, and will learn how to help students realize that they must use their voices to take action in order to achieve their aspirations in the present and in the future.

## Session 3 The Voice Process: Listen, Learn, and Lead

The Voice Process will be introduced as a model for fully embracing student voice as a way of being in schools. Participants will continue their journeys to embrace and implement a common definition of student voice and determine how to support all students in reaching their aspirations. The Voice Process and accompanying strategies will challenge educators to consider whether they truly listen to, learn from, and lead with students.

## Session 4 Voice and Vision: Using Data to Guide Implementation of the Aspirations Framework

Are schools truly involving the voices of students? This session is designed to deepen participants' understanding of the Aspirations Framework through student voice data. Participants will learn how to effectively use student voice data to continually drive decision-making and measure the effectiveness of implementation efforts. Building-level and classroom-level student voice tools will be presented, along with strategies for analyzing and acting upon data in partnership with students.

### YEAR 2

## **Implementing the Aspirations Framework Across Disciplines**

### Session 1 Self-Worth: Using Voice to Enhance School and Classroom Culture

With a shared understanding of student voice, we will continue the journey to establish practices in schools that allow student voice to thrive. This session focuses on the conditions necessary to enhance Self-Worth in schools. When students have a voice in school, they are 3x more likely to experience Self-Worth. And when students experience Self-Worth, they are 2x more likely to be academically motivated. In order to support students in taking more responsibility for their own learning and enhance Self-Worth, participants will consider how to embed the Conditions of Belonging, Heroes, and Sense of Accomplishment into their classrooms and schools.

## Session 2 Engagement: Cultivating Learning Environments Where Students Thrive

True Engagement takes root when students are deeply involved in the learning process, showing enthusiasm and a desire to learn new things, as well as a willingness to take positive, healthy steps toward the future. When students have a voice, they are 5x more likely to be engaged in school. And when students are engaged, they are 5x more likely to be academically motivated. This session focuses on the Conditions of Fun & Excitement, Curiosity & Creativity, and Spirit of Adventure, all of which lead to maximum engagement for students and teachers.

## Session 3 Purpose: Developing the Leader in ALL Students

It is not only important for students to have Self-Worth and be engaged in the learning process, but it is also important to develop a strong sense of Purpose. When students have a voice, they are 5x more likely to have Purpose in school. And when students have Purpose, they are 7x more likely to be academically motivated. This session focuses on strategies that foster Leadership & Responsibility and the Confidence to Take Action, which ultimately help students identify their purpose in life and learning.

## Session 4 Parents and Community: Including all Stakeholders in your School Voice Journey

Student voice as a way of being in schools is wonderful, yet it should not stop there. Educators need to take action to support parents and community members in school efforts to amplify Student Voice & Aspirations. Participants will discuss the challenges and benefits of parent and community involvement, and will leave with strategies and tools designed to engage all stakeholders in the student voice journey.

## YEAR 3

## **Cultivating Systems that Support Student Voice & Aspirations**

In order to maximize growth and sustainability of student voice, educators must approach implementation through a systems-thinking lens. In Year 3 sessions, participants will delve into theory and actions for deep implementation of the Aspirations Framework across disciplines and within all aspects of the school system. This is a customized process for each individual school. Teams will engage in self-assessment of their student voice progress to date, determine processes and policies that will facilitate continued growth, and consider what will be needed to sustain that growth. Throughout the year, teams will gather evidence of progress and prepare to share that evidence with others.

#### **SESSIONS FOR STUDENTS**

#### Session 1 Introduction to Student Voice

Why doesn't anyone listen to my ideas? Too often, students believe student voice is merely sharing one's ideas. This session will help students discover myriad ways to have their voices heard. More importantly, it will push students to understand the complexity and definition of voice, as well as their responsibility for turning voice into action. Throughout this session, students will begin to see how they can use their voices to enact positive change. The session will culminate with students preparing to present to peers and teachers about the importance of student voice.

## Session 2 The Voice Process: Listen, Learn, and Lead

Everyone knows how to listen, right? On the surface, this is a seemingly easy skill. Yet listening intently is more involved, and it is only one part of the Voice Process. In this session, students will analyze each component of the Voice Process and debunk any preconceived notions that voice is simply about taking charge and being loud. Students will be challenged to participate in a diverse range of activities to deepen their understanding of the Voice Process and strengthen their ability to apply what they learn in their schools. Participating students will determine actions they can take to help all students at their school understand the Voice Process and their role in it.

## Session 3 *Preparing to Partner*

Are you ready to make a difference? Voice is not a solo adventure. To be impactful, the Voice Process requires a genuine partnership. In this session, students will learn how to partner *with* others and be an effective partner *to* others, deepening their understanding of how to effectively put their voices into action. Students will engage in various scenarios to practice the foundational skills needed to amplify not only their own voices, but the voices of those around them. Students will leave the session prepared to work with all stakeholders in their school community.

## Session 4 Voice as a Way of Being

So, you want to change your school? Let's get started! In this session, students will make decisions about actions that can lead to school-wide change. Students will need to roll their sleeves up and be ready for hard work that leads to real change in their school. Utilizing self-assessments and future-planning tools, students will identify what they can do to foster a culture in which all students and stakeholders derive meaningful benefits. Students will develop an action plan with the goal of helping voice become a way of being in their school, delivering their ideas to staff, school leaders, and school boards.

Institute staff members are also available to facilitate student focus groups, lead student voice data analysis activities, work with student leadership groups, and provide a variety of other services directly to students.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES**

## **Quaglia Institute Website**

The Quaglia Institute's website contains a wealth of free resources for schools, including the following sections in our Library: Staff Publications, Showcasing Schools, Instructional Strategies, and Case Studies. To view these and a wide variety of other resources, visit: <a href="quagliainstitute.org">quagliainstitute.org</a>.

## **Surveys**

Quaglia School Voice surveys are designed to measure the conditions related to student voice and aspirations across an entire school. Available for students, staff, and parents, these online surveys take about 15 minutes to complete and provide survey administrators with real-time reports along with embedded Next Practices resources. Utilizing Quaglia School Voice survey reports, teams of educators and students can work together to develop shared objectives and inspire meaningful improvements within their schools.

The iKnow My Class survey helps individual classroom teachers in grades 3-5 and 6-12 discover students' perspectives about themselves as learners, course content, and instruction. This online survey takes about 5-10 minutes to complete, provides teachers with real-time reports along with embedded Next Practices resources. It allows for ongoing, formative assessment of students' perceptions and engagement and allows teachers to make necessary midcourse adjustments. iKnow My Class data is intended to be co-owned by the teacher and students and used in partnership within each unique class of learners to identify strengths to celebrate, as well as areas for continued growth.

Student and parent surveys are available in English and Spanish. Find more information at: bit.ly/quagliasurveys.

## My Voice, My Future

The My Voice, My Future student webinar series includes six 20-minute sessions that can be viewed by students in any order. Each session includes a reflective guide designed to support student learning during and after each session. The six sessions are:

- Understanding the Power of My Voice
- Putting My Voice Into Action
- Using My Voice for the Good of the Whole
- Building Positive Relationships with My Voice
- Goal Setting Driven by My Voice
- Amplifying My Voice During Transitions

Each session includes a variety of components designed to engage students in learning how to use their voices to positively impact their own lives and learning, as well as how to make a difference in the world around them. Students are presented with a series of Myth Busters as a way to explore what a powerful voice is, and what it is not. Focus concepts are then presented, including words of wisdom from the voices of a wide variety of educators and students. Each session also includes a personal challenge in which students individualize their learning and determine how they will apply what has been learned to their lives moving forward. Each session wraps up with key takeaways and suggested resources for continued learning.

View a brief overview video about the My Voice, My Future series at: bit.ly/MVMFoverview.

Find more information at: bit.ly/quagliawebinarseries.

## **Keynotes & School Consultation**

Dr. Quaglia, as well as senior staff at the Australian Institute for Voice & Aspirations and the Quaglia Institute, are available for virtual and in-person keynotes. Keynote addresses are tailored to meet the needs of individual audiences to ensure a meaningful learning experience that is relevant to the local context and connection to voice and aspirations.

Senior staff members are also available for onsite consultation delivered to individual schools to support system-wide voice and aspirations implementation efforts. The scope of work for onsite consultation is designed collaboratively between school leaders and Institute senior staff.

## **Publications**

Check out the wide variety of publications by Quaglia Staff at: bit.ly/QISVAPublications.



























