UNIT 5: E kāko`o kākou - Advocacy

Lesson #4

Ho`oma`ama`a
To make plans to move forward in the best possible way
- Practicing self advocacy

LESSON OBJECTIVES:
Students will:
- Brainstorm tips for speaking to groups
- Rehearse IEP presentation with classmates
- Celebrate learning about self, place, and community

MATERIALS:
- Chart paper & pens
- Students’ notes (guide or star chart) for presentation to classmates (IEP rehearsal)
- Celebration “supplies”

PROCEDURES:
• Introduce Lesson:
  - Begin class by inviting questions and initiating a discussion about students advocating for themselves at their own IEP meetings. Discuss as appropriate; benefits, challenges, and different areas students can have input into their own learning plan.
  - Tell students they have time today to “rehearse” sharing information about themselves when they advocate at an upcoming IEP meeting. Have students get out their Star Chart, Guide to Graduation and Beyond, or any other “prop” they want to use for their brief talk.

• MODEL LESSON:
  - Help address any concerns students have about speaking to groups by brainstorming and charting effective strategies for communication, like speaking loud enough, slow enough, with enthusiasm and eye contact, etc. Share your own concerns and strategies that help you speak in front of groups.

• GUIDED PRACTICE:
  - Facilitate student sharing to whole class or small groups. Positive feedback can be collected on post-its from those listening as a way to reinforce the speaker. Videoing presentations if students have time to review them can help develop speaking skills.

• CLOSURE:
  - Talk about ways students might be able to support each other to achieve their goals and dreams.
  - Spend time celebrating what students have learned about themselves, their classmates, places they care about, and their community. “Local Style” celebrations are often created around food, music, and good conversation. (Even popcorn can add a feeling of celebration about an accomplishment.)

• Evaluation:
  - Observe (and enjoy) the celebration! (...And consider how you might use this curriculum in even better ways for the next year...)

UNIT 5: Lesson #4-Ho`oma`ama`a -To make plans to move forward in the best possible way - Practicing self advocacy at an IEP meeting
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Practicing self advocacy at an IEP meeting