

Career Conversation Starters



ASCA Mindsets and Behaviors	Question Starters
Belief in development of whole self, including a healthy balance of mental, social/emotional and physical well-being	What activities or places make you feel safe and valued? Why?
2. Self-confidence in ability to succeed	Tell me about a time that you felt proud of something you accomplished at school in the last few months.
3. Sense of belonging in the school environment	If you had to rate our school on a scale of 1-10 (1=terrible, 10=amazing), what would you rate it?
4. Understanding that postsecondary education and lifelong learning are necessary for long-term career success	As you consider your career, what types of post-high school training have you already explored?
5. Belief in using abilities to their fullest to achieve high- quality results and outcomes	Describe a time you felt successful.
6. Positive attitude toward work and learning	If you could learn about anything, what topic would you want to learn about and why?
Behavior: Learning Strategies	
Demonstrate critical-thinking skills to make informed decisions	Can you describe a time when you worked through a challenging situation? How did you feel?
2. Demonstrate creativity	What world/community challenges do you want to solve?
3. Use time-management, organizational and study skills	How would you rate your time-management, organizational, and study skills on a scale of 1-10? Describe your rating.
4. Apply self-motivation and self-direction to learning	After taking the career assessment/s, what do you notice is important to you in a career?
5. Apply media and technology skills	What types of technology and software do you use regularly? How do you use it?
6. Set high standards of quality	How do you know if you are doing your best possible work?
7. Identify long- and short-term academic, career and social/emotional goals	What are you currently doing that is helping you prepare for your life after high school? Socially? Academically? Career related?
8. Actively engage in challenging coursework	What do you do when a class assignment becomes difficult?
Gather evidence and consider multiple perspectives to make informed decisions	What information would be important to know about a career?
10. Participate in enrichment and extracurricular activities	What kinds of things do you enjoy doing after school? On weekends? In the summer?
Behavior: Self-Management Skills	
1. Demonstrate ability to assume responsibility	Tell me about your responsibilities in and out of school.
2. Demonstrate self-discipline and self-control	Could you tell me about a time when you felt very angry or very disappointed and you dealt with the situation really well?

Tell me about the last class assignment you did on your own.
Tell me about a time you wanted something and had to wait a long time for it.
Tell me about a time you set a goal for yourself and stuck to it.
Describe a time you had difficulty learning something in one of your classes. How did you overcome the problem?
Think about a time when you did not handle a problem well. What do you wish you had done better?
If you had more time in your schedule, what would you like to do more of?
Think about your safety here at school. What kinds of things might happen that could make you or other students feel unsafe?
Think about a change you went through recently either at home or school. How did you adapt to that change?
Think about how you speak with, write, and listen to others. Which of those is your strength?
How do you show support and kindness to other students?
As you think about your future career, what adults might help you think about or reach your future career goals?
Could you tell me about a time when you saw someone in a bad situation? How did you feel and what did you do?
Honesty and trustworthiness are important in a work setting. Can you tell me about a time when you made a decision to be honest and trustworthy? How did you feel?
What types of group activities do you enjoy doing?
Think of a time when you felt someone was being treated unjustly. How did you handle it?
What is the best way to communicate your concerns so other people can listen and understand your



