

## Student Assistance Program

### Initial Student Conversation Checklist

- Introduce yourself as a SAP team member
- Briefly describe SAP and that it is voluntary and confidential
- Provide positives/strengths of the student
- Use referral and/or behavior checklist and/or other school data to communicate the concern/referral reason
- Express interest in helping the student
- Ask the student open-ended questions to build rapport and get their perspective (OARS)
  - Examples
    - Which three words describe you best?
    - Who are the people who matter most to you?
    - What is your favorite activity?
    - Who is your favorite teacher or school staff?
    - How do you feel about the reason you've been referred to SAP?
    - What other concerns would you like assistance with?
- Affirm student views and concerns whenever possible (OARS)
- Reflect statements made and restate thoughts (OARS)
- Make summarizing statements back to the student about the context of the conversation (OARS)
- Explain next steps in the SAP process and ask the student if they have any questions
- Thank the student for their time and encourage them to reach back out to you if they want to talk further