Going Gradeless

in a School That Requires Grades

tinyurl.com/GoingGradelessDL2019
Hello!

Lacey Boatman
Program Manager
Napa County Office of Education
lboatman@napacoe.org • @LaceyBoatman
Introductions

Name
Role, location
An experience in your life you remember learning A LOT from
Did that experience include a letter or number grade?
Overview

▫ Introductions & Framing
▫ Hopes & Fears
▫ Case Study
▫ Encounter Activity
▫ How To
▫ Plan
▫ Share
▫ Debrief
Hopes & Fears

Jot down the hopes and "fears" you might presently have about going gradeless.
Small Group
Share

Share your hopes and fears with each other (4 min total)
Why go gradeless?
To focus on learning.
How can I get _ more points to get an A-?

vs

How can I show more understanding of _?
The purpose of education is not to sort kids—it’s to grow kids. Teachers need to coach and mentor, but with grades, teachers turn into judges.

Scott Looney
Head of school at the Hawken School in Cleveland, Ohio
Choose One

1. Mr. Dr. Science Teacher - What I Learned from a Year of Going Gradeless

2. Math Teacher - My Journey to a Gradeless Classroom

3. An English Teacher’s Experience Going Gradeless

Read (5 min)

Pair/Share with a neighbor (5 min)

- What struck you
- Takeaways
- Implications for your practice
Small Group Discuss

Share what was read, what was considered in pairs, reactions, and takeaways.
My journey going “gradeless”


3. Portfolios of work, one-on-ones at grading period to look at work and discuss. Students defended the grade they thought they earned.

Heard Alfie Kohn speak
1. Peruse artifacts (5 min)
2. Written reflection (3 min)
   What resonated with you? What’s an idea you agree or disagree with, why?
3. Small groups (4 min)
   How has what you’ve seen influenced your thinking? In what ways do you envision using these resources?
How to do it?

What ideas have you gained?
Plan

Use the Planning Tool to develop a plan for going gradeless.
Share Your Plan
Partner share.
Debrief

Small group reflection. Are you ready to jump into going gradeless?
Thanks!

Any questions?
You can find me at:
  ▪  @LaceyBoatman
  ▪  lboatman@napacoe.org
Resources

- Going Gradeless Google Folder
- Encounter Artifacts
- https://teachersgoinggradeless.com/
- Supporting Research