

Goal Setting

A strategy for integrating a portrait of a learner into the classroom

What is Goal Setting?

Goal setting is the process of identifying, planning, and working toward specific learning or personal growth targets. It builds self-awareness and gives students a sense of direction, allowing them to reflect, track progress, and take ownership of their learning.

Why is Goal Setting important?

Goal setting fosters agency, motivation, and lifelong learning habits. When students set meaningful goals they learn to manage time, overcome challenges, reflect, and celebrate progress. These habits help students develop resilience and confidence, which are essential for success in school and life.



How can educators support Goal Setting?

Make goal setting part of regular classroom practice. Support students in setting clear, achievable goals and reflecting on progress. Connect goals to their Portrait of a Learner growth so students see the relevance of their efforts. Use conferences, check-ins, and portfolios to keep goals visible and meaningful. Provide tools like goal-setting templates and reflection prompts to scaffold the process.

How does Goal Setting connect to the Portrait of Nevada a Learner?

Goal setting helps students grow into Nevada graduates who are **empowered**, **connected**, **impactful**, and **thriving**. By setting and working toward personal, academic, and career goals, students practice responsibility, self-sufficiency, ethical decision-making, and long-term planning. These skills directly support the competencies outlined in the Portrait of a Nevada Learner .



Reflect on your current goal-setting practices. How might you incorporate Portrait of a Nevada Learner competencies into your processes or try a new approach that makes goals more intentional and empowering?

Reflection & Feedback

Strategies for integrating a portrait of a learner into the classroom

What are Reflection & Feedback?

Reflection is the thoughtful consideration of learning experiences, actions, and growth. Feedback is information that helps students reflect, improve, and move forward. Together, they build self-awareness, accountability, and a mindset for continuous improvement.

Why Reflection & Feedback?

Reflection and feedback empower students to take ownership of their learning and build agency. Reflection encourages metacognition, helping learners adapt and persist through challenges. High-quality feedback guides revision and promotes deeper understanding, supporting academic and personal growth. These practices help students develop confidence and resilience.



How can educators support Reflection & Feedback?

Reflection and feedback are essential for helping students internalize and apply how they are growing into **empowered**, **connected**, **impactful** and **thriving** learners. For example, reflecting on a group project may reveal how effectively collaboration and empathy were demonstrated, while responding to feedback on a presentation can strengthen communication skills. Linking these experiences to Portrait competencies makes growth visible and meaningful.

How do Reflection & Feedback connect to a Portrait of a Learner?

Make reflection and feedback a routine part of learning. Model reflective thinking by sharing your own process. Provide clear and actionable feedback that focuses on and affirms growth. Create safe opportunities for peer dialogue where students can practice giving and receiving feedback respectfully. Use strategies such as self-assessment, student conferencing, and goal-setting to help students connect their learning to Portrait competencies.



Reflect on your current strategies for supporting reflection and feedback. Are students regularly invited to think about their learning and receive meaningful input from others? How might you incorporate the Portrait of a Nevada Learner competencies into your existing processes or try a new approach that makes reflection and feedback more intentional, empowering, and aligned with Nevada's vision for student success?

Portfolios

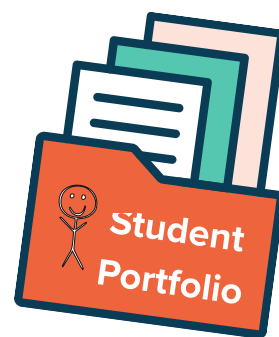
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What is a Portfolio?

A student portfolio is a curated collection of learning artifacts that showcase growth, achievement, and reflection over time. Portfolios highlight how students develop the skills and mindsets outlined in learning goals through work samples, reflections, feedback, and goals.

Why Use Portfolios?

Portfolios make learning visible and meaningful. They allow students to collect and curate evidence of growth that promotes ownership of their learning journey. By encouraging reflection and goal setting, portfolios help students track progress toward key competencies. They support authentic assessment and can be used for exhibitions, student-led conferences, and graduation readiness. Portfolios provide a holistic view of student success aligned with the Portrait of a Nevada Learner.



How can Educators Support Portfolio Use?

Embed portfolio routines into instruction through reflection prompts, project documentation or goal setting check-ins. Guide students in selecting evidence aligned with Portrait competencies and writing reflections that explain growth. Use rubrics or templates to scaffold the process and create opportunities for students to share portfolios with peers, families, or community members. Celebrate progress regularly to build confidence and motivation.

How do Portfolios Connect to a Portrait of a Learner?

Through curated artifacts and reflections, students demonstrate how they are growing into **empowered**, **connected**, **impactful** and **thriving** individuals. For example, a budgeting project might show financial responsibility, while a group debate highlights communication and civic engagement. Portfolios make the Portrait personal and tangible, helping students see how everyday learning connects to broader life skills.



Take a moment to reflect on your current practices for collecting and showcasing student learning. Are students able to see and articulate their growth in ways that connect to the Portrait of a Nevada Learner? How might you incorporate Portrait competencies into your existing processes or try a new portfolio strategy that makes learning more visible, personal, and empowering?