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Middle and Upper School Students As Change Agents

Objective:

Students will recognize their role as change agents.

Preparation:

1. **Time:** 10 minutes to read lesson and make copies
2. **Materials:** Copies of "[Change Agent Quotes](#)" by John Brandon of Inc. for each student.

Lesson Steps:

1. Gather class together
2. **Share:** As you approach your decisions for what your next steps in life will be, you may have many people trying to advise you. However, in the end, the decision is yours. Your path will be, just that, *your* path.
3. Pass out "Change Agent Quotes" by John Brandon and ask members of the class to take turns reading quotes aloud.
4. What does the term "Change Agent" mean? (One definition is provided by Study.com "A change agent is a person from inside or outside the organization who helps an organization transform itself by focusing on such matters as organizational effectiveness, improvement, and development.")
5. Break into triads and quads to discuss:
 - a. Who are change agents in the world? In your life? In your school?
 - b. Have you ever been a change agent? What was the outcome?
 - c. What skills are needed to be a change agent?



6. Bring triads and quads back together to share their thoughts. Write on the the board a list of responses to the skills necessary to be change agents. **Answers should include but not be limited to:**
 - a. Picking tasks which can be changed (for example, middle and high school are unable to change the candidates for President)
 - b. Knowing when and how to ask for help
 - c. Being self-advocates (speaking up for self when needed)
 - d. Demonstrating the ability to learn
7. **Prompt:** Think of some of the change agents in history (your own history, history of the school or country):
 - a. What did they have in common?
 - b. Was their path easy?
 - c. What were their hurdles?
 - d. What resources did they need?
8. **Prompt:** As you think about this year....
 - a. What kinds of situations might prompt you to be a change agent?
 - b. What might get in the way?
 - c. Let's think about the rest of this year and practicing the skills of being change agents.
 - d. What kind of situation(s) in the Country, our town, your life might need change?
 - e. What resources might be needed?
 - f. What might be a hurdle to overcome?
 - g. What outcomes are you seeking?

Resources:

- Kids as Change Agents Pinterest Board
<https://www.pinterest.com/jencortedcon/kids-as-change-agents/>
- Teens Empowerment [Creates Agents for Change](#) or <https://goo.gl/An1pLn>