



- Staff Activity -

## **It is Not About You: Staying Student Centered**

Objective: Gaining Perspective to Support Challenging Students

Estimated Time: 15 - 30 Minutes

Materials: Paper and Pencil

### **Activity:**

Hand out a blank sheet of paper to each staff member. Communicate that blank paper represents the blank slate that the student now has with their teacher.

Prompt 1: Write down everything you know about the student's life outside of school.  
How do you know? What evidence from the experience supports your answer?

Prompt 2: What are these student's strengths?  
What does this mean about the students? How do we build upon these strengths?

Prompt 3: Why is their behavior making you frustrated?  
How can you detach yourself from the student's behavior?

Prompt 4: **Make a plan to connect to this student!**  
Resist resenting this student because of their behavior. Have lunch with them, make a plan to connect with them and invest in who they are as a person