Personal Project Supervising Tips: Initial Meeting

**Before you meet:**

* Please ask your mentees to share their process journal with you.
* Familiarize yourself with Process Journal prompts completed to date (see MYP Personal Project Journal Prompts in MYP Personal Project folder in Stuart Staff shortcuts). If they are in an English 10 Standard class they should have completed the first eight journals and the draft of Report, Part I.
* They should be ready to talk about their research and what they have learned about their topic and the product ideas they are considering.
* If they are in an English 10 Honors class they may not be quite as far along in the process as they did not start until the beginning of the 2nd quarter.

**When you meet:**

* **Consider whether the journal prompts are thorough** enough to convey a sense of what the student is hoping to accomplish and has done so far.
* **Ask open ended questions** to encourage students to reflect and clarify so they can articulate what they have learned (both in terms of the topic and the process of investigating). This will help you to have a clearer idea of what their journey has looked like and how you might guide them as they consider the product they want to create.
* **Help them to challenge themselves appropriately!**
* **Help students organize a plan** for the next step which is to decide how they want to showcase what they have learned through a product of their choice.
* This is a good time for them to brainstorm some possible ideas for their “product” or share ideas they already have. **You may help them come up with some version of their idea that will be more doable or focused.**
* **Ask clarifying questions to get them to offer more detail and insight**. The student will need to **map out a plan of action** which will include things like materials, criteria for success, timeline for completion…. This is where you can be especially helpful! They not only need to think about what will make their product truly awesome but also what it will take (time and resources) to get it to that point.