### Big Idea/Topic
Start of Class Greeting

### Standard Alignment
**Health Standard 4:** Students will demonstrate the ability to use interpersonal communication skills to enhance health and avoid or reduce health risks

### Instructional Design

**Define Simply**
Connecting with students at the start of each class can be an important way to build relationships. Standing at the door and greeting students by name is a simple strategy teachers can employ to get to know students. Short questions may be asked, or congratulations may be offered for getting a role in the play or winning a basketball game.

**Model/Demonstrate with Examples**
Students can initiate greeting with their preference that day (e.g., fist bump, elbow bump, or handshake). Teachers can practice with students at the start of every class.

**Practice in All Relevant Settings**
There are many ways to personalize and practice how to connect with students at the start of class, such as a secret handshake ([Video Example](#)).

**Monitor & Provide Positive Feedback and Reinforcement**
Try not to be discouraged if students do not express excitement for morning greeting. It takes time for students to know that you are genuinely concerned for their well-being. Morning greeting is one way to consistently reinforce the message that they belong and are welcome in your class ([Video Example](#)).

**Based on Data, Adjust Instruction & Reteach**
If an individual student does not want to greet at any point in the year, something may be wrong. Make sure to respond with empathy and find a quiet moment to ask them what happened. Offer options for students (e.g., talk to counselor, short break, etc.).

### Evidence of Student Success
- Student success will be demonstrated by students participating and engaging in morning greetings each day.
- For students to be successful, teachers need to be at the door before they arrive.

### Distance Learning Supports
- Morning greeting can be adapted for online lessons by using the chat box or emoji options.
<table>
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<th>Engaging Families</th>
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<td>- Teachers can reach out to parents and build relationships the same way. Begin with a positive phone call to introduce yourself. Ask parents if there is anything you need to know about the students and how you can support them this year. Take careful notes to remember what parents say when you speak to them again.</td>
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