Creating Classroom Shared Vision

Guiding question: What makes a great student? Or What makes a great class?
Tool: Affinity Diagram
Materials: 3-5 sticky notes per student, a piece of chart paper for each group

Step 1: Students individually think about what makes a great student and jot ideas down on sticky notes. (5 minutes)

Step 2: In small groups of 4 or 5, students work together to sort their sticky notes into columns of similar categories. After sorting, group decides on a main idea label for each category and writes it at the top of each column. Group designates a speaker. (10-20 minutes)
Optional: Groups could write category labels on sentence strips.

Step 3: Teacher guides the process of merging group main ideas into a class list of categories. (15 minutes)
Example:
- "Table 1 share one of your categories."
- Write the category on the board and then say, "If your group has a similar category, bring your sticky note up."
- Stickies are placed on board under the heading.
- Ask another table for another category and repeat process until there are no more categories. Some categories may only be suggested by 1 group.

Outcome: Class needs to end up with 4 or 5 student traits. If class list ends up with more traits, allow students to Power Vote to narrow class list.

Step 4: Class works together to write class shared vision based on these traits **OR** teacher can use student responses to write a draft that can be presented to class for feedback/suggestions. (This may be done the next day. Also remember that the class vision can be revisited and changed throughout the year.)

Post vision in classroom, share with parents, post on Edmodo, and review frequently (daily at the beginning of the year). Make connections between class vision and 7 Leader Habits.

Possible modification for grades K & 1:
Work as a whole class to generate a list of traits of a good student on chart paper. Give each student 3 stickers with his/her name on them. Teacher reads list aloud, and students Power Vote by placing their stickers next to traits that are most important to them.