

## Angel

### *Mathematical Identity:*

**Efficacy and Risk Taking:** Angel does not view herself as a math person. She looks for ways to leave class - bathroom, get a drink, talk to another teacher. She sees only her deficits when it comes to math. She will wait a really long time to avoid having to dig in. Her efficacy tells her, "There is no risk taken if I don't engage."

**Decision Maker:** Angel's experiences in math up to this point have not been particularly positive. As a result, she does not believe that she has any avenue into the work. She rarely makes a mathematical decision. She will need some opportunities to make some intentionally.

**State of her Toolbox:** Angel is a sophomore and repeating Algebra 1. She was unsuccessful last year. She started out last year in our Everyday Algebra 1 class, which is a double block of math to support students who have not had much success in mathematics. It consisted of a 99 minute math class everyday. She had absence issues, I'm not sure why, but was moved to regular Algebra 1 at the semester since she was not "taking advantage of the support class." Well, she didn't get enough out of semester 1 and then had half the time to try to learn semester 2, so things did not end well for her. As a sophomore she was in my Algebra 1 class. On one of the first days of class I told her, "You know what is going to happen this year? You are going to pass Algebra 1. I'm not interested in a three-peat." Her toolbox started out almost completely empty, but not totally.

## *Human Identity:*

When I looked at Angel's schedule I noticed she was in Honors English. She did not view math as a strength, yet, she clearly had some academic motivation. When I first asked her to commit to coming in on Thursday afternoons for extra support in math, she said she couldn't because she had to be home to take care of her little sister. So she is a motivated reader/writer and she is a compassionate caretaker. Two assets right off the bat. I called her mom to talk to her about the possibility of her staying after on Thursdays. At first she told me that Angel really hated math last year and that she herself had never been very successful at school. But after talking for about 45 minutes she was convinced that Angel could become successful in math and she rearranged her work schedule to make this accommodation for Angel. One more asset, a mom who has her back.