Handout #2: Advocacy for Universal Supports

Directions: Use role-playing to work through the following script with a partner. Take turns being the student or the teacher.

Activity #1: THANK
Practice reading through each role-play situation out loud. Remember to use the THANK steps. You can quickly review the *THANK Cue Card* if needed.

Role-Play 1:

Student: Excuse me, Mr./Ms. _____
Teacher: Yes.
Student: Thank-you for providing me with the notes for today's lesson. It really helps me to focus on learning the material. I don't have to struggle with keeping up my notes at the same time.
Teacher: You're welcome.
Student: Have you ever thought about putting your notes on your website? I bet you there are other kids like me who struggle with taking notes. It would really help us if we could download them after class. It would really help the kids who are sick too.
Teacher: I hadn't thought about this before. Let me think about it.

Role-Play 2:

Student: Excuse me, Mr./Ms. _____
Teacher: Yes.
Student: Thank-you for providing me with a computer and spell check for the in-class essay. It really helps me with my spelling.
Teacher: No problem. You can leave any time to work on a computer in the resource room.
Student: Have you ever thought about giving everyone a computer for their essay? I am sure that there are many other students who would benefit from having a spell check.
Teacher: I don't see why not. I can try and book a laptop cart for our next in-class essay.

Role-Play 3:

Student: Excuse me, Mr./Ms. _____
Teacher: Yes.
Student: Thank-you so much for letting me use Kurzweil/Google Read and Write for reading my novel. I appreciate being able to bring in my phone and listen to the audio as I read.
Teacher: Glad to hear that is working out for you.
Student: Do you think it would be helpful if everyone could access their novel on Kurzweil/Google Read and Write? There are a lot of features that might help everyone. It can translate for kids who are learning English and the audio might help a lot of others.

Teacher: I hadn't' thought about using it with everyone. I will consider the request.

Role-Play 4:

Student: Excuse me, Mr./Ms. _____
Teacher: Yes.
Student: Thanks a lot for the extra time on my Science test. I appreciated having the extra time to really think through my answers. It helps to be able to finish up my test in a resource room with extra time.
Teacher: We can do this for all of your tests.
Student: Have you thought about starting your tests earlier in the period? Rather than checking and reviewing homework, could we begin the test at the beginning of class? I wonder if there are other students who might benefit from the extra time to complete the test.

Role-Play 5:

Student: Excuse me, Mr./Ms. _____
Teacher: Yes.
Student: That graphic organizer that you gave me to plan out my writing really helped! Thank-you! It helps to plan and organize my thoughts.
Teacher: I am glad it helped. It's something I always use with a few students who request extra help with their writing.
Student: Do you think it would be helpful for everyone to have this planning page? I think there are lots of students who would find it helpful as a universal support.
Teacher: That's a good thought. I will hand it out to everyone for our next writing assignment.