

## **Leadership Lesson**

**An idea from Kim Karr, Excelsior Middle School, [KKarr@byron.k12.ca.us](mailto:KKarr@byron.k12.ca.us)**

### **"Here I Am" or "There You Are"**

Write on the board, "Here I Am" or "There You Are".

Have the students sit in a horse shoe circle and place a chair in the front. Tell the students to sit in the chair and start a statement off with either "Here I am..." or "There you are..." They need to finish the statement. Do not give them any examples. You might have to wait a minute to get someone brave enough to do it. But it is neat to see what they say.

*Examples that my students have said,*

***"Here I am a hockey player for the Heats."***

***"Here I am the best Call of Duty 4 player."***

***"There you are a great friend."***

***"There you are a great basketball player."***

Let them keep doing it for about 10 minutes. It is ok if they go 2 or more times. Hopefully the quieter ones will go at some point, but it takes them some time to get comfortable.

Then I sit in the chair telling them about a student who once sat in the chair saying this...

"Here I am...actually talking in front of class for the first time and there you are wondering who this guy is or even amazed that he does talk."

More and more people are becoming all about "Here I am" and not about "There you are." Stop and take a look at yourself. Are you a person who is only about yourself or do you care about other people.

#### **Challenge:**

If you worry about other people, have confidence in yourself to say "Here I am!" instead of always being in the shadow.

If you were about yourself...start finding the good in others. Start saying, "There you are..."