QUESTIONS TO ASK THAT MOVE STUDENTS TO BECOME MATHEMATICALLY PROFICIENT
(from: http://elementarymath.cmswiki.wikispaces.net/Standards+for+Mathematical+Practice)

Practice	How did the student demonstrate this practice?
1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.	• How would you describe the problem in your own words? • What do you know that is not stated in the problem? • Could you try this with simpler numbers? Fewer numbers? • Would it help to create a diagram? Make a table? Draw a picture?
2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.	• What does it mean when…
3 Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.	• What do you think about what _____said? • Do you agree? Why/why not? • Can you explain what____ is saying? • Can you explain why his/her strategy works? • How is your strategy similar to ____'s? • Can you convince the rest of us that your answer makes sense?
4 Model with mathematics.	• What number sentence represents your drawing/picture/representation? • How could we use symbols to represent what's happening?
5 Use appropriate tools strategically.	• How did using that tool help you solve the problem? • If we didn't have access to that tool, what other one would you have chosen?
6 Attend to precision.	• Can you tell me why that is true? • How did you reach your conclusion? • How does your answer connect to the question? Does it make sense? • Can you make a model to show that? • Can you convince the rest of us that your answer makes sense? • What new words did you use today? How did you use them?
7 Look for and make use of structure.	• How do you know your rule/equation will always work?
8 Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.	• Is there a shortcut / algorithm you could use?