

Implementing a strong Advisory model helps ensure that every student has an authentic relationship with at least one trusted adult in the building. Students who have at least one relationship in a school building show a stronger sense of belonging which has a positive impact on their motivation, academic success, and attendance.

What is advisory?

ADVISORY IS...

- A scheduled class period that happens at least 3 times a week
- A small group with no more than 10 students
- Structured and planned to build socio-emotional and executive functioning skills
- The structure to contact students and families
- Led by a consistent advisor (or pair of advisors)

ADVISORY IS NOT...

- An extra planning period for teachers
- A study hall block or time for students to 'hang out'
- Small group pull out or other special education service delivery time
- Extra instructional time for a class period
- A buffer for student attendance

Advisors are at the forefront of strong, effective family engagement.

Secondary schools can be difficult for families to navigate as there are multiple teachers and roles that support students. An advisory structure allows for one point of contact who is responsible for communicating with families and supporting them in navigating the middle and high school experience.

For school staff, it allows them to create deeper connections with a small group of students and families rather than their entire rosters or caseloads that could be more than 100 students.

Advisors can be anyone in the building – from classroom teachers to other instructional support staff, including school leaders.



ADVISORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR...

- Connecting with each family in their advisory at the beginning of the year to introduce themselves and share about the advisory model
- Passing along all school-wide and grade level information and reminders to families
- Reaching out to families at least once a month to share individual updates on student progress
- Sharing any relevant information from the family with other school staff who work with the student

Want to learn more about what happens during advisory?

Crew is a curriculum from EL Education that schools implement during their advisory sessions. To learn more about SEL curriculum in advisory, explore [Crew Curriculum by EL Education](#).

