Riverhead Middle School

Advisory Program

Dr. Joseph Pesqueira - *Principal*
Mr. Emmanuel Hernandez - *Assistant Principal (Grade 7)*
Dr. Colleen O'Hara - *Assistant Principal (Grade 8)*

Objectives of Advisory

- Advisory is aimed at supporting our students in a small, intimate setting. The work done through advisory aligns with the New York State Social Emotional Learning Benchmarks:
  - Young people develop a self-awareness that nurtures and affirms a strong sense of identity, informs decisions about their actions, and builds a sense of agency.
  - Young people use social awareness and interpersonal skills to establish, navigate, and maintain mutually supportive relationships with individuals and groups that nurture a strong sense of belonging.
  - Young people demonstrate intentional decision-making skills and behaviors that consider social, emotional, and physical safety and well-being in personal, school, and community contexts.
    - Five Core Social Emotional Competencies
      - Self-Awareness
      - Self-Management
      - Social Awareness
      - Relationship Skills
      - Responsible Decision-Making

Curriculum Writing - Summer 2023

- During the summer of 2023, two of our advisory teachers collaborated to develop a day-by-day calendar for our advisory classes.
- This calendar contains curriculum for the entire school year that all advisory teachers use.

Advisory Day 40

1. Daily binder and agenda check in

2. Community Circle
   a. Topic: Conflict Resolution
   b. Possible discussion prompts:
      i. What strategies have you used to resolve conflicts?
      ii. What can make resolving conflicts challenging?
      iii. Talk about a time you resolved a conflict in a healthy way.
      iv. What are some other strategies you could try to help you resolve a conflict?
      v. Evaluate how well different people handle the conflicts below.

1. You have a lot of homework to do, but your best friend is messaging you about a disagreement that took place at school earlier in the day. You apologize and move on so that you can get your homework done.
2. You started a new job over the summer but do not get along with one of the other employees, so you schedule your shifts around when your coworker is not working.
3. On a planning committee, one person wants a Hawaiian-themed dance, but you want a costume party. Together you decide on a costume party with Hawaiian decorations.
4. You are babysitting your younger sister, and she refuses to get her homework done, so you threaten that you will tell your parents if she does not work on her homework.
5. On a planning committee, one person wants a Hawaiian-themed dance, but you want a costume party. You play rock-paper-scissors to decide.
6. You want to watch an action movie, but your friend wants a comedy, so together you find an action comedy to watch.
7. Your sibling lost her basketball game and has been picking fights with you all day, so you let her take it out on you since you know she has had a difficult day.
8. You got into a huge fight with your best friend at lunch but do not have the time to deal with the situation right now, because you are studying for an upcoming exam, so you decide to think about it.
9. You are working on a group project and cannot agree on a topic but have to decide by the end of class, so you agree on your classmate's choice since a decision needs to be made quickly.ter.
10. Your best friend will not respond to your texts or phone calls, so you ask them if you did anything wrong. After hearing their perspective, you apologize for your wrongdoing but ask if in the future he can communicate problems with you.
11. You and your friend are trying to decide on a television show, and you say, "Whatever you want to watch is fine by me."
12. Your friends all want to play soccer, but you would rather play basketball. You tell them that you won't play unless they play basketball.
13. You know your friend wants to talk about feelings, so you don't respond to her texts or calls.
14. Your sibling lost their basketball game and has been picking fights with you all day, so you leave your house to go over to a friend's house for the evening.

Advisory Topics/Activities	
Icebreakers	Study Skills
Team-Building	Self-Care
Executive Functioning Skills	Growth Mindset
Time Management	Resilience
Goal-Setting	Portal Checking
Community Circles	Self-Worth
Learning Styles	Gratitude
Self-Advocacy	Support System
Bullying	Conflict Resolution
Stress Management	Good Mistakes

Is There a Certain Student That Benefits from Advisory?

- All students can benefit from an advisory program.
  - For 2023-2024, we focused our efforts on 7th graders who we believed could benefit from additional support as they transitioned from Pulaski Street Elementary to Riverhead Middle School.
  - While all students benefit from an advisory program, the students identified for this pilot have benefitted from the topics/activities embedded in the curriculum.

What Are Our Students and Teachers Saying?

Moving Forward

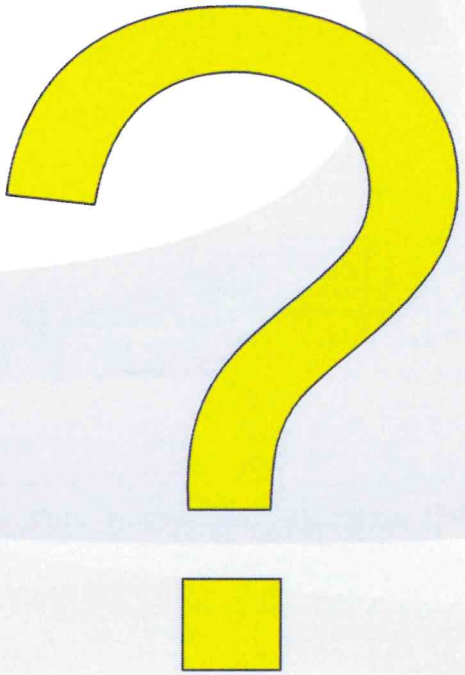
- 2024-2025
  - Our goal is to maintain the program in its current form.
    - 8 Teachers and ~80 students
  - Ideally, we'd like to continue to grow the program.
    - 12 Teachers and ~120 students
    - Focus on students Pulaski recommends for extra support as they transition to Riverhead Middle School

Thank You To Our Entire Learning Community!

- Board of Education
- District Office
- Advisory Teachers
- Counselors
- Pulaski Staff
- Mr. Hernandez
- Advisory Students

Thank You!

Questions?



Thank You!