

Advisory Overview and Talking Points

What is Advisory?

It is a time every Wednesday for 50 minutes that is designed to do the following:

- Encourage positive relationships within our Eldorado community.
- Help students understand and practice ways to treat one another with respect.
- Allow students to get to know peers in another way outside the regular classroom.
- Provide another avenue for teacher/student connections.
- Develop strategies to become effective allies.
- Provide opportunities for students to give back to the community.
- Raise awareness about personal interests, skills and values and find possible careers that fit with those.
- Provide a chance to learn about some “real-life” issues outside the regular academic class period.
- Give students and adults a chance to learn, grow and have some fun!

So what exactly will we be doing?

The Advisory program at Eldorado has 2 main components: Interest-based and Climate Advisories.

- **Interest-based** – Adults offer an activity, which is interesting to them, and one that they think students might want to learn. This is a really cool opportunity to make connections with kids in different grade levels and to form a connection with a teacher around a similar interest. The offerings range from ballroom dancing to making bracelets to designing Web pages. It is really an opportunity to learn something you’ve always wanted to learn but never had a chance to or to participate in something you enjoy with others who have similar interest. There are three 4-week sessions throughout the school year.
- **Climate Advisories** – These advisories really are designed to meet the goals of the program stated above and are broken down into 3 different 5-week sessions. Every student will have each of these components throughout the school year.
 - **Equity Awareness** -- By examining the different “isms” that plague our world and community, you will learn about the forces behind discrimination and oppression and ways to stop them by treating each other with greater respect and understanding.
 - **Community/Leadership/Service (CLS)** -- Through community involvement and 5 lessons, you will have the opportunity to learn about issues in your community, discover the heroic things that people are doing in often small ways in the community, and recognize your own potential to be heroes and leaders for others.
 - **Career Exploration** -- By examining your unique skills, interests, and values, you will look at career possibilities and life paths that match those, so that you can begin to get a jump start on thinking about your future. Sixth graders will focus on learning about their own personality and learning style, 7th graders will focus on a good match of a career and 8th grade will focus on working in the real world and other practical applications.

Advisory Calendar 08-09

August

8/20 Discipline Discussion
(Grade Levels)
8/27 Introduction of Advisory/
Community-building
Activity

September

9/3 Community-building
Activity
9/10 Interest-based
9/17 Interest-based
9/24 Interest-based

October

10/1 Interest-based
10/8 Climate Advisory Begins
10/15 Climate Advisory
10/22 Climate Advisory
10/29 Climate Advisory

November

11/5 Climate Advisory Ends
11/12 Interest-based
11/19 Interest-based
11/26 Thanksgiving Break

December

12/3 WEB/Holiday Activity
12/10 Interest-based
12/17 Interest-based
12/24 Winter Break
12/31 Winter Break

January

1/7 TBD (Refocusing activity
– first day back for
students)
1/14 Climate Advisory Begins
1/21 Climate Advisory
1/28 Climate Advisory

February

2/4 Music Concert Assembly
2/11 Climate Advisory
2/18 Climate Advisory Ends
2/25 TBD

March

3/4 CSAP break
3/11 CSAP break
3/18 TBD
3/25 Spring Break

April

4/1 Climate Advisory Begins
4/8 Climate Advisory
4/15 Climate Advisory
4/22 Climate Advisory
4/29 Climate Advisory Ends

May

5/6 Interest-based
5/13 Interest-based
5/20 Interest-based
5/27 Interest-based