Responsive Classroom®

#SELday

RESPONSIVE ADVISORY MEETING PLANS
KINDNESS AND COMMUNICATION Part 1

Arrival Welcome

Greet each student by name and with a warm smile as they enter.

Announcements

Greetings, Kind Communicators,

Yesterday you talked about the importance of communication. Today you're going to add another layer to that—kindness.

Quote of the Day "Courage. Kindness. Friendship. Character. These are the qualities that define us as human beings, and propel us, on occasion, to greatness."

—FROM WONDER BY R. J. PALACIO

Read the quote again, and think about what it means to you.

Point out today's key school and team events.

Acknowledgments

One Thing The student whose birthday is closest to January 1 starts. That student turns to the student on their left, greets them by name, and asks: "What's one thing you remember from yesterday's Graffiti charts?" The student returns the greeting and shares their response. Repeat for several rounds.

Activity

BEAT THE CLOCK PROMPTS

1st prompt: Define kindness in as many ways as you can.

2nd prompt: List ways you show kindness to others.

3rd prompt: List ways you would like others to be kind to you.

4th prompt: List ways you can communicate kindness to others.

Beat the Clock In small groups, students have 60 seconds to brainstorm as many ideas as they can in response to each of four prompts (see prompts at left). Have each group choose a note-taker to record their ideas, and for each prompt, signal when to begin and end. After groups complete their brainstorming, they discuss and choose their top two ideas for each prompt (eight ideas in all). Each group then presents their ideas to the whole group. Record these on chart paper. Discuss common themes and trends."

Reflection Gather everyone in a circle. Ask: "Think about the work you did this week around communication. How does kindness connect to communication? What's something you can do to communicate more kindness to others?""

RESPONSIVE ADVISORY MEETING PLANS
KINDNESS AND COMMUNICATION Part 2

Arrival Welcome

Greet each student by name and as they enter. Consider also giving a high five.

Announcements

Dear Complimenting Communicators,

Today is a great day to practice the art of communication and kindness. Here's a short passage from Awaken by Katie Kacvinsky to get us started:

> Justin: "Girls like compliments, don't they?"

> Madeline: "I think everyone does if it's sincere. Not just girls."

Think about the people at your table. What's one compliment you can give them (about their positive actions)?

Point out today's (and/or this weekend's) key school and team events.

Acknowledgments

Giving Compliments As a whole group, brainstorm compliments and list (or invite a student volunteer to list) them. At tables, students greet each other by name and o er a compliment. For example: "Good morning, Felix. Your kind words yesterday helped me have a great day." Emphasize that each compliment should be about the person's positive actions, not about their appearance."

FOUR CORNERS QUESTIONS

- How will you use what you learned about communication in school? At home?

- What did you learn about yourself this week?

- If you could teach other students communication skills, which would you teach?

- What communication skills should we work on as a whole group in Advisory?

Activity

"Four Corners (variation) Post chart paper around the room with the ques- tions shown at left (one question per chart). With their table group, students go to a corner and discuss the posted question. At the end of their discussion, they write their top three responses on the chart. Signal for groups to rotate to the next corner and repeat until groups have been to all four corners. Give groups time to review and discuss the completed charts."

Reflection Remind students that improving communication skills takes time and effort. Ask: "What are some ways everyone can work on improving communication skills here in Advisory?" Implement students' ideas in future Advisories.