High School Community Meeting (Homeroom) Block

Guidance Document

Purpose:
To support the social emotional cognitive growth of students while building community.

Components:

- 45 Minutes on Wednesdays - 8:30am -9:15am
- Mandatory instructional block for teachers – teachers will be paired for this time.
- Announcements and schoolwide information (5-10 mins).
- Community Building Circles (if trained) (15-20 mins). Only schools not trained in Community Building Circles may use alternative activities for connection (15-20 mins).
- School specific lessons which could include: PBIS School Wide Expectations, Code of Conduct, Naviance, other social emotional and CCR-related lessons relevant to school community (15-20 mins).

Lessons and Activities:

- Community Building Circle resources are emailed to principals of schools trained.
- School specific lessons are available from appropriate school teams.
- Code of Conduct lessons are provided by Office of Safe and Orderly Schools.
- Naviance lessons are available from school counseling offices.

Recommendations:

- Determine a person at the school who will take the lead on supporting this block – this could be the same person leading the Student Wellness block. This person will be invited to have access to the shared Google Drive for Student Wellness/Community Meeting.
- Keep content separate from Community Building Circles or Connection Activities – these are intended for community building and not content delivery.
- For schools trained in Community Building Circles, pair trained staff with untrained staff.

Support:

- Recorded professional development and power point – “Community Building Circles: Mini-Refresher and How To’s for Virtual Circles”- Provided for opening week for all trained schools.
- The shared Google Drive will include suggestions for alternative activities for connection for schools not yet trained in Community Building Circles.
- Reach out to Megan Lewis, Coordinator for Behavioral Supports and Interventions, at mclewis@aacps.org and Kathy Rockefeller, School Climate Specialist, at krockefeller@aacps.org for support.

AACPS Teacher Guidance Sheet