

# IPC - Advisory Sub-Committee 12/7

Members: Tim Girzone, Tiffany Testa, Erin Robbins, Kristen Roy, Shaun Hastings, Jen Given, Tom Solon, Kate Stoll, Lindsay D. Gr.11, Bradley N. Gr. 10

Facilitator: Tim Girzone

Note Taker:

Process Observer:

- Introductions
  - Background
  - Interest in committee
  - Experience with Advisory

Tim

- Principal, worked in Bow and at HBMS where 'advisory/ROCK' were part of programming

Kristen

- HBHS World Language Teacher
- Parent of 3 children who attended Bedford where they had an advisory in HS

Erin

- HBHS World Language Teacher
- As a student attended Campbell HS where she took part in advisory

Jen

- HBHS Social Studies Teacher
- Union President, Interested in some of the positive aspects that were originally part of Home Base CavBlock that have been lost with the use of the Adaptive Scheduler

Shaun

- HBHS Math Teacher
- Has taught in multiple schools where Advisory was part of the schedule
  - One note is some positive aspects include Student Council driven/lead 'curriculum'

Tom

- Parent of 2 HBHS graduates
- School board member
- Interested to gain better understanding of how advisory can work in schools as a formalized component

Bradley

- Gr. 10 Student

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- Went through HBMS where ROCK served as an advisory type piece

Lindsey

- Student - Jr. Class President
- Went through HBMS where ROCK served as an advisory type piece.

Tiffany

- Parent of current HBHS and HBMS children
- Community member
- Teacher. Works in a school with Advisory. Advocate for programming ensuring all students have a trusted adult in school. Spoke to benefits on school culture, emotional intelligence, soft/life skills.

Kate

- Parent of HBHS graduate and current HBMS children
- Community member
- VLACS school counselor - In role as school counselor she also serves as an advisor for advisory at VLACS
- School board member

Conversation around CavBlock's role in its current state and how this has evolved from meeting a wide range of goals to a much more academically focused vehicle. Concerns around this potentially happening if the proposed idea of an advisory is not well designed, implemented and directed.

Academics are such a central part of our culture here at HBHS, it would be important to maintain CavBlock as it serves academic needs but an advisory would need to be built in such a way that it is protected as a non-academic piece.

Tom brought up the question of who would serve as an advisor. All teachers, staff, admin, counselors, etc? Conversation ensued around how it would be staffed. What if people don't want to take part?

Lindsey brought up the concern of requiring a 'socialization-only' portion of the CavBlock as students enjoy the flexibility of choosing when academics need priority and when socializing happens.

Jen explained her CavBlock serves some of the needs an Advisory serves and how it provided students with a 'home base' prior to adaptive scheduler.

Shaun explained that when he taught at Campbell HS, some of his colleagues in the Math Department did not feel comfortable and this portion of the schedule was often used as a 'homeroom' (for lack of a better term). Oftentimes, advisories would combine with other groups

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to alleviate some of the challenges in implementing SEL activities alone. Reviewing academic standings with individual students was also a common practice for an advisor to conduct.

- Goal
  - To explore the possibility of implementing an advisory here at HBHS
    - *What needs do our students have that are not being met?*
      - *Executive functioning*
        - *Google classroom, turnitin, research skills, email etiquette*
      - *Self-regulation/organization*
      - *Self advocacy, talking with adults*
      - *SEL*
      - *Building on student strengths*
      - *Communication*
      - *Trust*
      - *Tolerance/acceptance of mistakes*
      - *Empathy*
      - *Conflict management*
      - *Group behaviors*
    - *What purpose could an advisory program serve, based on these needs?*

## ☰ Six Key Dimensions of Successful Advisory Programs (3)

- Next Steps
  - School Visitations
  - Professional Development
  - Next Meeting - January 10, 2022