

Our Advisory Identity Chart


Purpose: Connect the ideas of identity and community by considering the factors that members of the advisory community share.

ADVISOR NOTES:

1. Create an Advisory Name, Motto, and Symbol

If you have extra time in this meeting or in a future meeting, you can have advisees work in groups to brainstorm a name, motto, and symbol that they feel represents their advisory group's identity. Each group can record its ideas on chart paper, and the advisory can vote or discuss which ones they think best represent them. You can then post the name, motto, and symbol alongside the advisory contract and community identity chart.

APPROXIMATE TIME:
40 minutes

MATERIALS:
 **HANDOUT**
Starburst Identity Chart
Chart paper and markers

PROCEDURE:

1. Introduce and Discuss the Idea of Community Identity

- Start by reminding the group that in an earlier advisory meeting, they created personal identity charts that reflected all of the factors that make up their identities—both those that they choose for themselves and those that are chosen for them. Then let them know that in this meeting, they will be considering the factors that make up a community's identity.
- Ask advisees to move into small groups, and then ask them to discuss the following questions:
 - Where does a community's identity come from?
 - How can individuals with different identities come together to form a community identity? What might make this process challenging?
- Ask each group to share their ideas with the larger advisory.

2. Create an Advisory Identity Chart

- Explain to the groups that they will now think about the identity of their advisory community. They will first make an advisory identity chart using the Starburst Identity Chart template, and then the whole advisory will collaborate to create a big identity chart on a piece of chart paper to post in the room along with their advisory contract.
- Pass out one **Starburst Identity Chart** handout to each group and instruct them to write "Our Advisory" in center. Then have them brainstorm words and phrases to

add to the chart. If they seem to be struggling, you might prompt them with one or more of the following questions:

- What do members of the advisory have in common?
- What similarities have you noticed in our advisory discussions so far this year?
- To what communities do members of our advisory group belong?
- What interests do advisees in the group share?
- What labels or assumptions might other communities, like the school community or local community, make about the group?
- After groups have had time to work on their advisory identity charts, have each one present its ideas. Then, on a piece of chart paper, create an advisory identity chart together. You can invite one or more advisees to do the writing and help facilitate the discussion.
- Post the chart in the room to reference and possibly add to in future meetings.



Starburst Identity Chart

Directions: Write “Our Advisory” in the circle. At the ends of the arrows pointing outward, write words or phrases that describe what you consider to be key aspects of your advisory’s collective identity. At the ends of the arrows pointing inward, write labels others might use to describe your advisory. Add more arrows as needed.

