

# ADVOCACY PROGRAM

*Generation Schools Network uses the term “Advocacy” rather than “Advisory” as it connotes an active process where teachers learn to advocate for students and students learn to advocate for themselves and one another.*

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## STRUCTURE

Advocacy is a daily or weekly 30-45 minute class that fosters:

- Trusting relationships through Advocacy routines and rituals
- Student ownership of academics through conferencing, data review, and goal setting
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) through lesson plans and projects
- College and Career Readiness (CCR) that links learning to life
- Additional support for students and families through a Resource and Referral Guide



## GOALS

- Create a safe environment for learning and personal growth
- Address personal, physical, emotional, and social barriers to success
- Empower students with skills and resources to plan for college and career
- Develop skills needed for school, work and life
- Increase academic achievement/attendance and decrease behavioral incidents



## SERVICES & TOOLS

- Teacher training to implement Advocacy daily routines and rituals
- Administrator training to observe, support and coach Advocacy
- Coaching to monitor school culture, behavior and achievement
- Toolkits for recruiting, supporting, retaining and evaluating community partnerships



“*After implementing Advocacy at our school for just one semester, we have already had two new families come to Westgate because of finding out about the Advocacy program and the associated Bullying Prevention Initiative we are doing. They were impressed with the work and the school culture that resulted so they decided to send their kids here.*”

*- Amanda Novak, Dean of School Culture, Westgate Community School, Thorton, Colorado*

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*Generation Schools Network offers coaching and professional development services proven to drive student achievement, improve school culture and eliminate bullying.*



Your virtual or in-person training will take place with a GSN expert in 1- 4 hour segments. Training includes: a rationale of the topic, extensive context, and specific activities to implement in your school or classroom right away.

## **LIST OF WORKSHOPS**

- Classroom Management & SEL
- Coping With Crisis
- Executive Function & SEL
- Exploring Culture, Identity, and Social Justice
- How To Do Advocacy/SEL in a Remote Setting
- Introduction to Advocacy
- Introduction to DESSA and Indigo SEL Surveys
- Introduction to SEL & Mindfulness
- Leading Your School's Advocacy Program
- Mindfulness Matters
- Teacher Self-Care
- Team Building
- Trauma-Informed Teaching

# SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING CURRICULUM

## GSN UNITS (\*Available in Spanish)

Elementary School	Coping with Crisis*
	Effective Communication for Healthy Relationships*
	Exploring Culture, Identity, and Social Justice*
	Growth Mindset*
	Healthy Relationships*
	Mindfulness*
	Physical Activity*
	Social Awareness*
	Starting Strong*
	Time Management & Organization*
Middle School	Coping with Crisis*
	Effective Communication for Healthy Relationships*
	Exploring Culture, Identity, and Social Justice*
	Growth Mindset*
	Healthy Relationships*
	Mindfulness*
	Physical Activity*
	Protecting Our Privacy*
	Service Learning*
	Starting Strong*
	Team Building*
Time Management & Organization*	
High School	Collaboration & Teamwork*
	Coping with Crisis*
	Effective Communication for Healthy Relationships*
	Exploring Culture, Identity, and Social Justice*
	Growth Mindset *
	Healthy Habits*
	Healthy Relationships*
	Mindfulness*
	Protecting Our Privacy*
	Self-Awareness & Self-Regulation*
	Service Learning*
	Starting Strong*
Time Management & Organization*	

\*New units regularly added in English and Spanish, for current offerings visit [gsnstore.org](https://gsnstore.org)

# SAMPLE WEEKLY ADVOCACY SCHEDULE

Each day starts with **Circle, Welcome, Warm-Up** followed by these weekly activities:

## MONDAY

SEL Curriculum - Mindfulness, Growth Mindset, Relationship Skills, etc.

## TUESDAY

Academic Conference - Data Review and Goal Setting

## WEDNESDAY

SEL Curriculum

## THURSDAY

College and Career Readiness - Career Exploration, Pathways, Mapping, Application Completion, etc.

## FRIDAY

Team Building and Check-In or Opportunities with Community Partners

“ I had created a social emotional learning curriculum myself and wanted to see what Generation Schools offered. Their session was fantastic and provided me with mindfulness activities that I could immediately try in the classroom. I set up a 5-day Mindful Minute schedule to be done at the beginning of class. We also practice deep breathing with attention to our heartbeat and progressive muscle relaxation. Students gain focus quickly after transitioning classes.”

- Ellen D'Amore, LaMuth  
Middle School, Painesville, Ohio



# ADVOCACY RESULTS

167 teachers and 1,298 students  
participated in the 2021-2022  
End-of-Year Advocacy/SEL survey.

**100%**

of students express they  
feel safe at school.

**100%**

of teachers agree that they  
have developed meaningful  
relationships with their  
Advocacy/SEL students.

**90%**

of teachers feel “mostly  
confident” or “highly  
confident” in their ability  
to support students in their  
SEL skill development.

**75%**

of students agree that they  
develop skills that will help  
them in school, work, and  
life during their SEL lessons.



## SCHOOL STAFF TALK ABOUT ADVOCACY

*“We appreciate the help GSN has given us to get our Advisory going.  
It has made a huge difference in student climate.”*

*- Counselor at Las Animas School District, Las Animas, Colorado*

*“Thank you for making the GSN workshop catered to the AXL community needs.”*

*- Teacher at Aurora Expeditionary Learning (AXL) Academy, Aurora, Colorado*

# CONTACT US

For specific program questions,  
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“ *Passing my Regents Exams, graduating  
and going to college were just dreams.  
Now it's my reality.* ”

- *Ackeem Lawrence*

*Brooklyn Generation School Graduate,  
Brooklyn, New York*

