Start school with a R.E.A.L beginning
25 days of learning and building community!

This program is designed to build community connections during the first month of school! This can be done as a class/advisory or as the entire school. You can choose to do one week or four weeks of community-building activities. Implementation tips are below!

1	2	3	4	5
Welcome Day Name games or summer update in the classroom or advisory.	**Word Cloud or Collage** Create a word cloud or collage with everyone's interests.	**WOW Wednesday** School staff share a fun fact about themselves.	**Student- Created Memory Board** Student advisory teams create a memory board they can add to during the year.	**Student- Designed Door or Wall** Student advisory teams create.
6	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
School Spirit Day Everyone wears school colors or shares ribbons with the school colors.	**Celebrate Languages** Students write "welcome" in different languages and post on door.	**WOW Wednesday** Share a fun fact about your advisory group/team with the rest of the school.	**Thankful Thursday** Share a note with someone at school thanking them.	**Feel Good Friday** All students share something they are proud of. Students post positive "I am" statements.
11	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**
Monday Mention Students in advisory complete the sentence "I wish my teacher knew...." *	**Advisory Mascot** Each advisory creates a mascot.	**WOW Wednesday** Students share a fun fact about themselves in their advisory.	**Finish the Sentence** Start with "Together we can" and have each advisory group or student complete the sentence.	**Kindness Day** Showcase someone in the class or advisory when they do a random act of kindness.

16	17	18	19	20
Name That Tune in Advisory Advisory team competes with each other to name that tune. **	**Where The Wind Blows** Work as an advisory team to learn about each other. One person says, "The wind blows for anyone who…." Students who have that in common change places. Whoever doesn't get a spot offers the next suggestion for where the wind blows.	**Wow Wednesday** Play bingo or similar game with students fun facts on the card. Play with one or more advisories.	**Mystery Celebrity Day** School staff person dresses up as a celebrity. Students have to guess.	**Name That Tune Schoolwide** Advisory teams compete against one another.**
21	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**
School or Community Trivia Ask students to create trivia questions to ask a different advisory group.	**Advisory Kahoot** Compete as an advisory group against other groups in your grade. Kahoot is a platform for playing games. https://kahoot.com/what-is-kahoot/	**Wow Wednesday** Find a classmate you don't know well and create a Venn Diagram of what you have in common and what's unique. Or share a photo based on a theme or color and why it's important to you.	**Silent Lines** Form a line without speaking based on order of birthdays or foot sizes or a topic the group chooses.	**Friendly Friday Shout Outs** Pick a classmate's name out of a jar and write a positive note to or about them.

Tips for implementing a spirit and instructional learning incentive program.

- Many of these activities can be easily integrated into the morning meeting or advisory meeting routines.

- Schools can opt to include prizes for the class or grade that has the best participation. Possible prize options include healthy snacks, popsicles or gift cards from local shops.

- Please remember, adjustments should be made that take into consideration all student groups (i.e., students with disabilities, cultural differences and social emotional needs). When pairing students together or asking students to write about one another, make sure students understand how to offer positive comments.

* Monday Mention. This question can lead some students to share traumatic experiences. Teachers should be prepared for this response and consider who on the school staff can help when this occurs. Review ASCD's blog post Trauma-Informed Teaching Strategies.

** Name That Tune. Set some appropriate boundaries and use songs without profanity and put downs.