

Albemarle County Public Schools

Middle School Advisory

AIMS

(Affiliation, Identity, Mindset, Success)

Purpose

The purpose of the **AIMS** curriculum is to support the *whole child* by building skills that afford students to become the best versions of themselves. Specifically, the goals are -

- To ensure that **each student is known** well at school by at least one adult who is that student's advocate (advisor);
- To guarantee that **every student belongs** to a peer group;
- To help **every student find ways of being successful** within the academic and social options the school provides;
- To provide a structure for students **to examine their developing identities** as well as learn about those different from them;
- To support students in **finding their voice and listening to the voices of others**;
- To develop **safe and ethical digital citizens**;
- To have **fun**.

Session Structures

There are three structures to the AIMS Advisory Sessions. The Academic Advisory sessions are often carried out through extended learning time like GROWL, WIN, STING, etc.

Circle of Power and Respect (CPR)	Advisory Plus (A+) - SEL Lesson	Academic Advisory (AA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• News• Greeting• Share• Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hook• Mini-Lesson• Activity/Discussion• Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check (grades, planner, binder)• Organize• Set Goals• Work

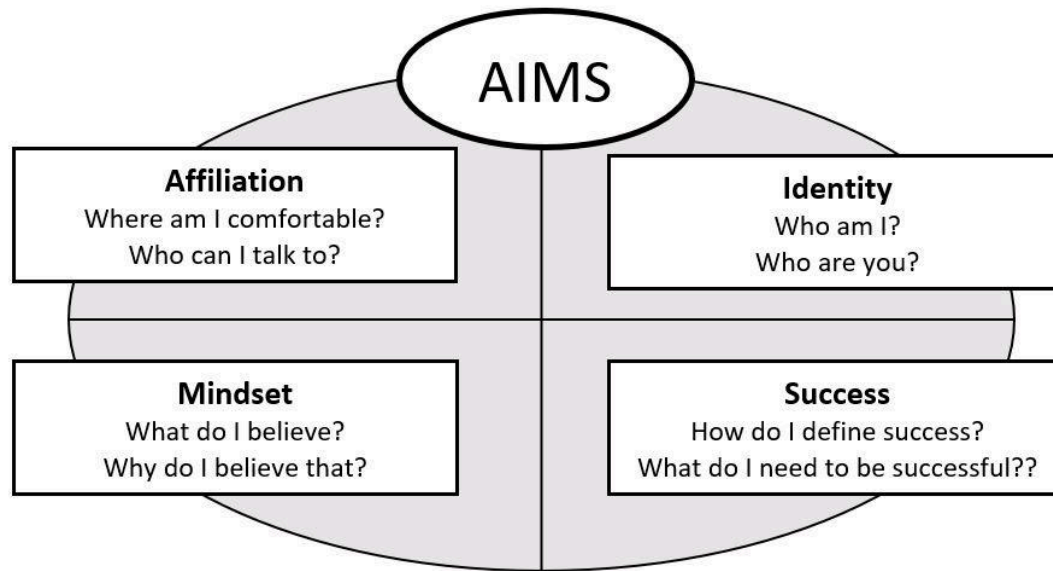
ACPS MS Advisory's (AIMS) Central Concepts

Affiliation. Human beings affiliate towards a diverse range of things: towards each other, towards ideas and perhaps towards the organizations they spend time in. When we affiliate to an organization, as pupils may do to a school, we mainly affiliate to persons, and through them to other relational matters such as goals and purposes. Affiliating to an organization means to feel a sense of membership, a sense of belonging and to feel a part of something larger, as one may do with a range of communities at other levels.

Identity. Identity encompasses the memories, experiences, relationships, and values that create one's sense of self. This amalgamation creates a steady sense of who one is over time, even as new facets are developed and incorporated into one's identity.

Mindset. Your mindset is a set of beliefs that shape how you make sense of the world and yourself. It influences how you think, feel, and behave in any given situation.

Success. Success is the state or condition of meeting a defined range of expectations. It may be viewed as the opposite of failure. The criteria for success depend on context, and may be relative to a particular observer or belief system.



Overview of Units

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
New Beginnings	Windows and Mirrors	Sliding Glass Doors	Looking Forward
<p><i>Students explore their new "environments." The goal of this module is to build psychological safety within the advisory group.</i></p> <p><i>Schools can break this quarterly unit into smaller chunks.</i></p>	<p><i>Students participate in sessions that make them look inward (mirror) and outward (window) to help them understand themselves and understand others.</i></p> <p><i>Schools can break this quarterly unit into smaller chunks.</i></p>	<p><i>After looking inward to themselves and outward to other individuals, students begin to take an active role (walking through the sliding glass door) regarding themselves and their various communities.</i></p> <p><i>Schools can break this quarterly unit into smaller chunks.</i></p>	<p><i>Students reflect on their year and make short-term and long-term plans</i></p> <p><i>Schools can break this quarterly unit into smaller chunks.</i></p>