

Mountain View Elementary School Student Services Plan

ROLE OF THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

The counseling program of Mountain View School District is designed to promote positive self-concepts and positive school experiences for all students. Each student is a valued, unique individual with the capacity to grow and to develop into a self-directed adult possessing a positive self-image and concern for the rights of others.

The student services plan is an organized effort of Mountain View School District to serve as a supportive service of the educational process. The function of the counselor can be divided into four main areas: counseling, consulting, coordinating, and appraising. Counselors design the program by identifying developmental needs of students, writing specific objectives based upon the effectiveness of the program. The program offers both direct and indirect help to students through specific guidance services. The program provides services to assist students in the process of growing in personal/social, educational, and career development. The counselor serves as a facilitator of human relations among students, parents, and school staff.

PRINCIPLES OF COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL COUNSELING

The counselor works within the educational framework and the student's total environment to enable each student to arrive at an identity and learn to make choices and decisions that lead to effective functioning. Through counseling, students are provided the one-to-one assistance that neither teachers nor parents may have the opportunity to provide. Thus, the counselor helps students to deal with problems and pressures in our world today and helps them meet the societal pressures of tomorrow. The function of the school counselor, then, is to provide a bridge of communication between the various factors in the home, the school, and the community.

Referral Agencies

Ark. Rehabilitation Services-Bruce Kelly-793-4153

Ark. Sheriff Youth Ranch- 793-6148

Advocacy Services, Inc.-Mental Health Advocacy-(800)482-1174

AR Children's Hospital-Medical Services-(501)320-1185

Behavioral Health Clinic, Mtn. View-mental health services, school therapy 269-8100
(Intervention Specialist-Leticia Wrinkle)

Birch Tree Communities-Benton, (501)315-3344

Bridgeway Hospital-Maumelle, (501)771-1500

Child Abuse Hotline-(800)482-5964

Centers for Youth & Families- Little Rock, (501)666-8686

Counseling Clinic Inc, Outpatient Substance Abuse, (501)778-0404, Benton

Children Medical Services-269-8062

Division of Children and Family-269-4321

DHS Client Assistance 800-482-8988

Homework Hotline-4 pm to 6pm, (800)283-4321

N. Central Ark Ed. Services Coop-Carroll Manry, LEA Supervisor, (870)368-7955

Ozark Legal Services-Free Legal Services- (501)442-0600

Pinnacle Point Hospital-Little Rock, (501)223-3322

Sheriff's Dept-Stone County, 269-3825

TEA Program-Employment Assistance-269-4229

Timber Ridge Ranch, Neuro Rehabilitaton Center, Benton, (501)594-5211

Wilbur D. Mills Center- Drug Abuse Assistance (501)268-7777

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COUNSELING ACTIVITIES

School Counselors are involved in the following:

Classroom Guidance

To provide planned guidance activities for all students. These age-related exercises foster students' academic, personal, social, collaborative effect by counselors and teachers. The classroom guidance curriculum focuses on topics such as

- 1) Self-understanding
- 2) Effective interpersonal and communication skills
- 3) Problem-solving, decision-making, and conflict resolution skills
- 4) Effective study skills and positive attitudes toward school
- 5) Career awareness and the world of work
- 6) Substance abuse prevention
- 7) Comprehension and acceptance of differences in people (racial, gender-based, cultural, religious, physical)
- 8) Divorce
- 9) Grief

Individual Counseling

To provide students with in-depth help and consultation in a private setting, the counselor has been trained in the necessary skills to provide a helpful learning situation. Through this counseling, the student gains insight into his/her potential for dealing with self and others in order to facilitate understanding and acceptance.

Group Counseling

The counselor provides counseling for a small number of students with similar concerns to facilitate understanding and acceptance. Both individual and group counseling deal with a variety of topics, such as failure, death, divorce, peer relations, etc.

Consultation

To consult with parents in groups or individually to provide information about the emotional and academic needs of the students. Counselors will make teachers aware of available affective resources, materials and activities that correlate with academic objectives in the classroom. The counselor may, at times, be called upon to consult with outside agencies and community group about resources to help individual students or the total school climate.

Coordination

To share information with involved persons working in the school, the counselor will explain the counseling program to teachers, parents, students, and administrators. The counselor will also provide professional growth opportunities to fellow educators by sharing knowledge of counseling techniques. The counselor will assist in organizing and implementing guidance activities and programs which improve the school environment, recognize student improvement in behavior or achievement, and promote good community relations.

Working with Parents

To serve as a liaison between the home and the school, the counselor will share insight and knowledge gained about each child as he/she progresses in the school setting with the parents. Parents may be asked to assist in identifying student needs, in developing a program for the student, in participating in a parenting group or, in serving on school advisory committee.

The counselor will share information about school-based programs, will assist with student course selection, and will provide lists of outside referral agencies when the student's physical or emotional needs cannot be met adequately by the home or the school.

Peer Facilitation

The counselor will provide structured opportunities for students to serve as peer helpers. Students often share their problems with peers rather than adults. Peer helpers can be selected by school staff and trained in communication and basic counseling skills through a carefully planned program. Counselors meet with the peer helpers on a regular basis for continued training, supervision, support, and personal growth. Counselors also continually monitor and evaluate the training and impact of the peer facilitation program.

Referrals to Community Agencies or Professional Individuals

The counselor will refer a student to another person or agency within or outside the school for additional specialized assistance when needed.

Assessment and Testing

To help students identify their skills, abilities, achievements, and interests through counseling activities and guidance curriculum. Counselors also interpret standardized test results for parents, faculty, and students, relate the results to strengths and limitations in the school's curriculum, and assist in planning and implementing changes in the curriculum and school's procedures.

The counselor interprets test results for parents and/or students and may act as a consultant to the faculty. Student data is kept in files maintained in the school office.

Specialized Populations and Needs

To work with students from culturally diverse populations and students with disabilities requires special attention. Counselors' activities can promote:

- 1) Students' and school personnel's acceptance of differences
- 2) Policies, procedures, and behaviors that reflect freedom from stereotypes
- 3) Examination of schools' testing programs to ensure that they reflect equitable standards for all students
- 4) Outreach to parents and families of students from culturally diverse populations.

Orientation

The counselor will provide an opportunity for the student to become familiar with the counseling program and the school. Orientation will help students; make effective transition adjustments from one school setting to another. Formal programs may be used in a classroom setting for groups entering a new school after promotion. As new students enter school throughout the year, orientation may consist of individual or group sessions assisted by peer helpers.

Class Scheduling

The counselor will properly place students in the academic setting. Counselors act in a consulting capacity at all levels in guiding students toward short- and long-term educational and career objectives.

Utilization of Students Records

To utilize data to assist parents, faculty, administrators, and counselors in helping each individual student reach their potential.

CAREER AWARENESS AND PLANNING IN SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAMS

To introduce student to the world of work and to assist them in choosing, preparing for, and entering appropriate careers.

CAREER EDUCATION GOALS

The counselor coordinates the career education program under the guidelines developed by the Arkansas Advisory Council for Career Education.

1. Students will improve career planning and decision-making skills.
2. Students will be able to identify information about career and sources of occupational information.
3. Students will improve job acquisition and retention competencies.
4. Students will improve attitudes and appreciation for career success.
5. Students will improve skills in human relations.
6. Students will improve self-investigation and evaluation skills necessary for career success.
7. Students will understand personal/work/societal responsibilities.
8. Students will improve understanding of economic factors influencing career opportunity.
9. Students will improve understanding of relationship of education and career choices.
10. Students will improve learner outcomes in the basic subjects.

RECOMMENDED FACILITIES FOR THE GUIDANCE PROGRAM

Facilities required for a school guidance program are functions of: students' characteristics and needs, program goals and objectives, staffing and scheduling, grouping of students for specific purposes, the use of a variety of materials and procedures, the need for privacy for counseling, and the need for security of restricted materials and student records.

Minimum facilities required in each school building to operate a guidance program should include one or more of each of the following: Office(s) for counselor(s), reception/clerical/display rooms(s), and group procedures room(s). The number of each type of facility depends on student enrollment and the number of required counselor positions.

STUDENT SERVICES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

See Attachments:

- Student Questionnaire
- Parent Questionnaire
- Faculty Questionnaire
- Referral Agency Questionnaire

SCHOOL COUNSELOR/PUPIL RATIO
AND OTHER STANDARDS FOR ACCREDITATION

According to the Standards for Accreditation, Arkansas Public Schools, adopted by the State Board of Education in February of 1984:

1. Each school shall provide a guidance program to aid students in educational, personal, social, and vocational development.
2. Each school shall provide the necessary facilities, supportive personnel and privacy for counseling.
3. Each school district shall provide access in the elementary and secondary schools to certified guidance counselors. The ratio for the secondary level shall be not less than one counselor for every four hundred fifty students. The ratio for the elementary level shall be not less than one counselor for every six hundred students by June 1, 1987, and one counselor for every four hundred fifty students beginning with the 1989-90 school year.

WORKS CITED

Arkansas's Guidance Scope and Sequence, "Student Services Plan", Arkansas Department of Education. 1993.

Referral Agencies

Ark. Rehabilitation Services-Bruce Kelly, 793-4153

Ark. Sheriff's Youth Ranch, 793-6148

Advocacy Services, Inc.-Mental health advocacy-(800) 482-1174

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Centers for Youth & Families- Little Rock, (501)666-8686

Children's Medical Services-269-8062

DHS Division of Children and Family—269-4321

Homework Hotline—4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Mon—Thurs.-(800) 283-4321

N. Central Ark Ed. Services Coop, Carroll Manry, LEA Supervisor, (501) 362-3404

Ozark Legal Services—Free Legal Services—(501) 442-0600

Pinnacle Point Hospital-Little Rock, (501)223-3322

Sheriffs Dept.—Stone County 269-3825

Timber ridge Ranch, Neuro Rehabilitation Center, Benton, (501)594-5211

TEA Program—Employment Assistance—269-4229

Wilbur D. Mills Center—Drug Abuse Assistance—(501)268-7777

Crisis Plan Team

Kennon Glenn, MV District Resource Officer 870 214-0118

Kay Shipman, MVES Principal 870 269-5999

Carrie Futrell, MVES Assistant Principal 870 214-0492

Sherry Johnson, MVES Counselor 870 213-5801

Hollie Gibson, RN- MVES Nurse 870 213-5509

Crystal McCool, Teacher 870 269-5643

Renia Butler, Teacher 870 213-6813

Amanda Stewart, Teacher 870 919-5120

Dalene Williams, Custodian 870 213-6460

Leigh Ann Morrison, Counselor MVMS 417 274-8982

Torey Hanna, Counselor MVHS 870 214-7955

Ron Simpson, MD- MV Family Practice 870 269-4144

Jason Ingram, Pastor 870 269-3409

Will Thompson, Pastor 870 615-2471

Finus Brewer, Pastor 870 291-2282

Brad Taylor, Pastor 870 214-1607