

School Counseling



An Overview

The American School Counselor Association

The Four Quadrants:

1. Foundation:

Beliefs, Philosophy, and Mission

2. Delivery:

Guidance Curriculum, Individual Student Planning, Small Group Planning, Responsive Services, Systems Support

3. Management:

The Organization of the Program and Schedule of the School Counselor

4. Accountability:

Data Collection that Links the School Counseling Program to Student Achievement [School Counselor Competencies](#)

ICCSD MISSION STATEMENT

ICCSD Mission Statement

“The mission of the Iowa City Community School District is to ensure all students will become responsible, independent learners capable of making informed decisions in a democratic society as well as in the dynamic global community; this is accomplished by challenging each student with a rigorous and creative curriculum taught by a diverse, professional, caring staff and enriched through the resources and the efforts of families and the entire community.”



Mission of School Counseling Program



- Align with the school mission
- Rely on research based methods
- Assist students with personal/social, academic, and career goals
- Improve culture of the school
- Provide skills needed to become productive in a diverse society

Benefits of a School Counseling Program

- The actual roles and responsibilities of a school counselor are difficult to define briefly because the many roles **adapt** to the needs of the school.
- Academic success is improved by having a school counselor because they can help eliminate barriers to learning.
- The school counselor provides leadership, advocacy, and systemic change.
- According to Dahir and Campbell (1997) school counseling programs have had a positive impact on students, parents/guardians, teachers, administrators, boards of education, and even communities.

Examples of School Counselor Roles



- Delivery of Guidance Curriculum
- Guidance Curriculum Lesson Planning (Academic, Career, Personal/Social)
- Implementation of Steps to Respect
- Responsive Services
- Individual Counseling
- Individual Counseling Planning/Case Studies
- Professional Development
- Community Outreach
- Small Group Counseling
- Preparation for Small Group Counseling
- Collaboration with Administration
- Collaboration with Staff
- Collaboration with Parents/Guardians
- Collaboration with Outside Agencies
- Enriching School Culture/Climate
- Student Support Team Involvement (STT)
- Coordinating Events
- Assisting Families with Obtaining Resources
- Supporting Crises Situations



Protect Our School Counseling Programs

- CNN clip from October 2011:



- [Bullying Solutions](#)

- As mentioned, the role of the school counselor adapts to the needs of the school. Bullying is a major social issue in our society today. We have already begun the Steps to Respect Program and would like to see this continue.

Protect Our School Counseling Programs

- The School Counseling Program is not considered a “special”
 - The school counseling schedule can not be treated like a specials schedule (there are other components to consider such as individual sessions, and small groups)
- There need to be clear guidelines as to the FTE of a school counselor in the ICCSD
 - Currently there is no clear reasoning for FTE in the ICCSD which is causing inequities

School Counseling Mandates by State

Iowa

Is school counseling mandated for grades K-8? Yes

Is school counseling mandated for grades 9-12? Yes

Mandated School Counselor-to-student ratio: School districts must be working towards a 1:350 ratio for all levels

Source of mandate: Legislated

Who funds mandate? Local school district

The American School Counselor Association (2007) recommends an ideal counselor to student ratio of 1 to 250

Protect Our School Counseling Programs

- Video Created by the ICCSD School Counselors (January 2012)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME
AND CONSIDERATION