

CONSULTATION

The counselor as a consultant helps people to be more effective in working with others. Counselors consult with school personnel, parents and community agency personnel to assist students in their academic, career and personal/social development. Consultation helps individuals think through problems and concerns, acquire more knowledge and skill and become more objective and self-confident. This intervention can take place in individual or group conference or through staff development activities.

COORDINATION

Coordination is the process of managing various indirect services which benefit students. Through this process the counselor acts as a liaison among school, parents and community agencies. Coordination may include organizing special events which involve parents or resource people in the community in guidance projects. It often entails collecting data and disseminating information. Counselors might coordinate a student needs assessment, assist with interpretation of standardized tests, serve on a child study team, or conduct guidance-related teacher or parent education programs.

Students may meet with their Counselor by:

- Making written or verbal contact.
- Stopping by the counseling office to make an appointment.
- Referral from school personnel and/or parents.

Parents may contact their Child's Counselor by:

- Telephone, email, fax or written communication.
- Stopping by the counseling office to make an appointment.

Equity Statement:

It is the policy of the Iowa City Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed color, gender, national origin, religion, age, marital status, sexual orientation, veteran status, or disability in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices. If you believe you have (or your child has) been discriminated against or treated unjustly at school, please contact Equity Director, Ross Wilburn at 509 S. Dubuque Street, 319-688-1000 or 319-339-6884. She will discuss the situation with you and if you wish, help you file a grievance.

Iowa City Community School District

K-12 School Counseling & Guidance Program

Mission Statement:

The mission of the school counseling program in the Iowa City Community School District is to provide all students with the support skills, and knowledge necessary for a productive, fulfilling life and career in an evolving society. This is accomplished by creating opportunities in the school and community for self exploration, skill development and career planning, which will respond to the needs and aspirations of the individual and the community.



*Providing an atmosphere
of safety, trust and positive
regard for all students*

The Iowa City Community School District Counseling and Guidance Program

is a comprehensive, developmentally-based pre-K-12 program. Implemented in every school, the program facilitates student development through the acquisition of skills, attitudes and knowledge in the following three areas:

- **academic**-which contributes to effective learning in school and throughout the life span
- **career**-which will enable students to make a successful transition from school to careers
- **personal/social**-to help students understand and respect self and others, acquire effective interpersonal skills, understand and practice safety and coping skills and develop into contributing members of society.

Services:

COUNSELING

Large Group Guidance

Counselors work with students in large groups whenever appropriate. Elementary counselors teach prevention-based classroom guidance lessons throughout the year. Junior High counselors meet with classroom groups to address the unique personal/social and academic needs of their populations. High school counselors give classroom presentations about academic and career information.

Small Group Counseling

Small group counseling involves a counselor working with two or more students together. Group members can share ideas, give and receive feedback, increase their awareness, gain new knowledge, practice skills and think about their goals and actions.

Individual Counseling

Individual counseling is a helping relationship in which a counselor and student explore ideas, feelings and behaviors.

We believe that

- Students' ability to learn is dependent upon having their basic needs met.
- All students have the right to an emotionally and physically safe learning environment.
- Students benefit from a learning environment of mutual respect.
- Critical thinking is an essential skill.
- Students learn in different ways.
- Each student needs an advocate in his/her life.
- A positive home/school relationship promotes student success.
- Counseling services are for all students.
- Everyone in the school environment is responsible for ensuring that students receive counseling services.
- School/community partnerships enhance counseling services.

Confidentiality*

Counselors respect the privacy of the information, always considering actions in terms of rights, integrity and the welfare of the students. Counselors are obligated by law and ethical standards to report and to refer a case when a person's welfare is in jeopardy. It is a counselor's duty to inform an individual of the conditions and limitations under which assistance may be provided. The conditions include: harm to self, harm to other, or harm by others.

**For more detailed information concerning school counseling confidentiality, see sections A2 and B2 of the American School Counselor Association's Ethical Standards for School Counselors found in the K-12 Counseling and Guidance Curriculum Guide, located in each counseling office or at the Central Administrative Office (CAO), 509 South Dubuque Street, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.*

