

Billings Public Schools Elementary Counseling First Grade

Philosophy

Elementary School Counseling services are an integral part of the total school program and complement learning in the classroom. A school guidance program reaches every student and will focus on the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for successful academic achievement, career development, and personal/social growth. Services are child-centered, proactive, and developmental. Our professional school counselors spend their time working directly with students to maximize the benefits every student will receive from the program. This will be accomplished through the use of School Counseling Curriculum, Individual Student Planning, Responsive Services, and System Support. School counseling services are comprehensive in scope, preventative in design, developmental in nature, and intended to enhance the potential of **ALL** elementary students.

Therefore, as an educational system we believe we can teach all children and all children can learn. We believe accessing knowledge, reasoning, questioning, and problem solving are the foundations for learning in an ever-changing world. We believe education enables students to recognize and strive for higher standards. Consequently, we will commit our efforts to help students acquire knowledge and attitudes considered valuable in order to develop their potential and/or their career and lifetime aspirations.

National Standards:

Academic Development Domain

- I. The students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and across the lifespan.**
- II. The students will complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial postsecondary options, including college.**
- III. Students will understand the relationship of academics to the world of work, and to life at home and in the community.**

Career Development Domain

- IV. The students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions**
- V. Students will employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction.**
- VI. Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training, and the world of work.**

Personal/Social Development Domain

- VII. The students will acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others.**
- VIII. The students will make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals.**
- IX. The students will understand safety and survival skills.**

Academic Development Domain

- I. The students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and across the lifespan.**
 - 1. Take pride in work and achievement
 - 2. Use communication skills to know when and how to ask for help when needed
 - 3. Take responsibility for their actions

- II. The students will complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial postsecondary options, including college.**
 - 1. Seek information and support from faculty, staff, family, and peers

- III. Students will understand the relationship of academics to the world of work, and to life at home and in the community.**

Career Development Domain

- IV. The students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions.**
 - 1. Learn about the variety of traditional and nontraditional occupations
 - 2. Learn how to interact and work cooperatively in teams
 - 3. Learn to make decisions

- V. Students will employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction.**

- VI. Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training, and the world of work.**
 - 1. Learn to work cooperatively with others as a team member

Personal/Social Development Domain

- VII. The students will acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others.**
 - 1. Develop positive attitudes toward self as a unique and worthy person
 - 2. Identify and express feelings
 - 3. Distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate behavior
 - 4. Recognize personal boundaries, rights, and privacy needs
 - 5. Understand the need for self-control and how to practice it
 - 6. Recognize, accept, respect, and appreciate individual differences
 - 7. Learn how to make and keep friends

- VIII. The students will make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals.**
 - 1. Demonstrate when, where, and how to seek help for solving problems and making decisions

- IX. The students will understand safety and survival skills.**
 - 1. Learn about the differences between appropriate and inappropriate physical contact
 - 2. Demonstrate the ability to assert boundaries, rights, and personal privacy
 - 3. Learn techniques for managing stress and conflict

