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. Articulate feelings of competence and confidence as learners
   2. Demonstrate how effort and persistence positively affect learning
   3. Use communication skills to know when and how to ask for help when needed
   4. Demonstrate the ability to work independently and cooperatively

II. The students will complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial postsecondary options, including college.
   1. Understand the relationship between classroom performance and success in school

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 to make decisions
   2. Learn how to set goals
   3. Acquire employability skills such as working on a team, problem-solving, and organizational skills

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 how to use conflict management skills with peers and adults

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. Distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate behavior
   2. Recognize personal boundaries, rights, and privacy needs
   3. Understand the need for self-control and how to practice it
   4. Demonstrate cooperative behavior in groups
   5. Recognize that everyone has rights and responsibilities
   6. Recognize, accept, respect, and appreciate cultural diversity
   7. Learn how to make and keep friends

VIII. The students will make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals.
   1. Understand the consequences of decisions and choices
   2. Know how to apply conflict resolution skills
   3. Demonstrate a respect and appreciation for individual and cultural differences

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