

# Billings Public Schools Elementary Counseling Sixth 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. Apply time management and task management skills
- II. The students will complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial postsecondary options, including college.**
  - 1. Demonstrate the motivation to achieve individual potential
  - 2. Become a self-directed and independent learner
  - 3. Establish challenging academic goals in elementary school
- III. Students will understand the relationship of academics to the world of work, and to life at home and in the community.**
  - 1. Seek co-curricular and community experiences to enhance the school experience
  - 2. Understand the relationship between learning and work

### **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 how to set goals
  - 2. 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.**
  - 1. Identify personal skills, interests, and abilities and relate them to current career choice
  - 2. Demonstrate knowledge of the career planning process
- VI. Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training, and the world of work.**
  - 1. Identify personal preferences and interests which influence career choices and success
  - 2. 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. Learn the goal-setting process
  - 2. Distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate behavior
  - 3. Recognize personal boundaries, rights, and privacy needs
  - 4. Identify personal strengths and assets
  - 5. Recognize, accept, respect, and appreciate cultural diversity
- VIII. The students will make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals.**
  - 1. Understand the consequences of decisions and choices
  - 2. 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

