

Benefits of the School Counseling Program

Benefits for Students:

- Ensures every student receives the benefit of the school counseling program by designing content curriculum for every student
- Promotes a rigorous academic curriculum for every student
- Ensures equitable access to educational opportunities
- Fosters advocacy for students
- Supports development of skills to increase student success

Benefits for Parents:

- Provides support in advocating for their children's academic, career, and personal/social development
- Supports partnerships in their children's learning and career planning
- Ensures academic planning for every students
- Ensures access to school and community resources
- Connects to community and school based services
- Ensures every student receives the content of the school counseling curriculum
- Promotes a philosophy that some students need more and seeks to ensure they receive it

Benefits for Teachers:

- Promotes an interdisciplinary team approach to address student needs and educational goals
- Increases collaboration with school counselors and teachers
- Supports development of classroom management skills
- Supports the learning environment
- Promotes teaming to increase student achievement

Benefits for Administrators:

- Aligns the school counseling program with the school's academic mission
- Provides a school counseling program promoting student success
- Provides a system for managing a school counseling program
- Provides a proactive school guidance curriculum addressing the students' needs and enhancing school climate

Benefits for School Counselors:

- Defines responsibilities within the context of a school counseling program
- Supports access to every student
- Provides a tool for program management, implementation, and accountability
- Recognizes school counselors as leaders, advocates, and change agents
- Ensures the school counseling program's contribution to the school's mission

Four components in the systematic delivery of the counseling program

School Counseling Curriculum: *The curriculum component provides a method by which every student receives school guidance curriculum in a systematic way. (35%-45%)*

- Lessons are designed to help ALL students with the knowledge and skills appropriate for their developmental level
- Lessons are delivered alone or with other professional educators in the K-6 classrooms and group activities

Individual Student Planning: *The individual student planning component provides all students an opportunity to work closely with their parents to plan, monitor, and understand their growth and development and take action on their next steps personally, educationally, and occupationally. (5%-10%)*

- Activities that assist students to establish goals and develop future plans
- Activities that assist students to plan, monitor, and manage their own learning
- Activities that assist students in the areas of academic, social/personal and career development.

Responsive Services: *A responsive component responds to the direct, immediate concerns of students and includes individual and group counseling, crisis counseling, referrals or consultation with parents, teachers, or other specialists. (30%-40%)*

- Individual counseling
- Small group counseling
- Crisis intervention
- Referrals
- Consultation with parents and staff
- Conflict mediation

System Support: *The system component enables the school counseling process to be effective through: leadership and advocacy, consultation, collaboration and teaming, program management and professional development. This component also provides appropriate support to other programs in the school. (5%-15%)*

- Professional development
- Program coordination
- School-wide activities for students, staff, or parents
- Collaboration and partnering
- Community outreach and volunteer coordination