

Lower Merion School District

Policy No.: 112
Section: PROGRAMS
Title: GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES
Date Adopted: 5/16/88
Date Last Revised: 2/18/14

112 GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES

In order to provide a planned program of counseling and guidance services in the District, there shall be a program of guidance and counseling services involving the coordinated efforts of all staff members, under the professional leadership of certificated guidance personnel, utilizing the best practices and delivery systems of professional organizations such as the American School Counselor Association and the Pennsylvania School Counselor Association using the following goals:

1. To help students develop and appreciate an understanding of themselves and others and to become self-advocating for their needs;
2. To support and accommodate students to recognize and develop their own capabilities using their educational opportunities and understanding themselves holistically;
3. To develop self-confidence, resiliency, and self-esteem in all students;
4. To assist students with decision-making and problem-solving to the benefit of their current and future transitions in life;
5. To aid students in identifying options and making choices in their vocational and academic planning in order to be college and or career ready; and
6. To achieve the best possible placement for each student

All students in grades K through 12 shall be provided with guidance and counseling services in accordance with the program described above. Services to each student shall be determined by individual needs.

Definitions

"Guidance and counseling services" means counselor interaction with pupils, parents/guardians and staff members, individually and in groups, along with information-giving and assistance in planning for the future. The interaction focuses on the academic, emotional and vocational needs of pupils.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or a designee shall plan and implement a guidance and counseling program which achieves the purposes and goals stated in this policy and its related Administrative Procedure No. 112, "Guidance and Counseling Services."