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2450 South Wabash Street ♦ Denver, Colorado 80231 ♦ 303.369.0663 x116

### **Informed Consent for Counseling Services: 2018-2019 School Year**

Welcome to the counseling department at the Denver Jewish Day School. This is a document providing information about counseling services at Denver JDS and your rights as a client/parent. By signing this form you are consenting to your child meeting with the school counselor or school counseling intern for individual, small group, or family sessions. The goal of these meeting is to provide an opportunity for your child to talk about any issues or problems they are experiencing that may affect their academic, social, and/or emotional life at school. Counseling may help your child to achieve better focus and success at school. As a parent/guardian, you have the right to participate in decision-making concerning your child's counseling and there will be ongoing communication between you and the school counselor.

#### **Staff Credentials:**

- ❖ Dr. Rachel Gall has a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Northern Colorado, an M.A. in School Counseling from the University of Colorado, and a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Washington with a minor in Jewish Studies. She completed a postgraduate Certificate in Marriage and Family Therapy from the Denver Family Institute. Dr. Gall is a Licensed Psychologist (#4837) and a Licensed School Counselor in Colorado.
- ❖ Susan Klein, LMFT, completed her B.S. at Northwestern University in 1970. She completed her Master's degree in Psychology at the California Graduate Institute of Los Angeles in 1987. Mrs. Klein specializes in the assessment and treatment of children, adolescents, couples, and families. She is licensed in the state of Colorado under LMFT #207.
- ❖ The intern for the 2018-19 school year is Kaitlyn West. Kaitlyn is currently earning her M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling at the University of Northern Colorado, where she also earned a B.S. in Psychology.

#### **Client Rights:**

- ❖ You are entitled to receive information from the school counselor about our methods of therapy, the techniques used, the duration of your therapy (if known) and the fee structure (there are no fees for our services).
- ❖ You can seek a second opinion from another therapist or terminate therapy at any time.
- ❖ In a professional relationship, sexual intimacy is never appropriate and should be reported to the board that licenses, registers, or certifies the licensee, registrant, or certificate holder.

#### **Privileged Communications:**

Generally speaking, the information provided by and to the client during therapy sessions is legally confidential and cannot be released without the client or parent/guardian's consent. There are exceptions to this confidentiality, some of which are listed in section 12.43.218 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, as well as other exceptions in Colorado and Federal law. If a legal exception to confidentiality arises during therapy, if feasible, you will be informed accordingly. Exceptions to confidentiality include:

- ❖ If your child threatens to harm or cause the death of another person or themselves
- ❖ In the case of suspected child or elder abuse (70 and older) that may include neglect, assault, battery, or sexual abuse
- ❖ In the event that your child becomes gravely disabled or incapacitated
- ❖ When I am concerned about a client's safety, it is my policy to request a welfare check through local law enforcement. In doing so, I may disclose to law enforcement officers the nature of my concerns.
- ❖ If a subpoena, issued by a court of law, requests specific information related to counseling, that information must be provided by the school counselor
- ❖ If you request information to be given to another party and sign a release of information (ROI) document
- ❖ If I suspect a threat to national security
- ❖ I agree not to record our sessions or conversations without your written consent, and you agree not to record a session or conversation without my written consent.
- ❖ Under CRS 14.10.123.8, parents have the right to access mental health treatment information concerning their minor children, unless the court has restricted access to such information. If you request treatment information, we may provide you with a treatment summary in compliance with Colorado law. In addition, we will inform you if we meet with your child more than once for counseling purposes.
- ❖ The counseling department frequently offers small groups on topics such as social skills, leadership, divorce, or grief/loss. If we were to identify a need for your child to participate in a small group, we will inform you. You are also welcome to let us know if you believe your child could benefit from being part of a counseling group. Although group members agree to confidentiality as a group rule, we are not able to guarantee your child's confidentiality in a small group setting.

- ❖ During the course of our work with you and the Denver Jewish Day School, we would like your permission to provide limited information to relevant Denver JDS staff (i.e. your child's primary teachers) so that we can work together to maximize your student's success at school. Therefore, *by signing this form, you are authorizing us to share relevant information* that we obtain in our work with you and your child and opinions we formulate as a result with Denver JDS staff.

Please indicate any information which you would like to remain confidential within the counseling department:

**Record Keeping:**

The responsibility for the maintenance and storage of written chart notes lies with the School Counselor(s). This information is stored separately from students' academic files. Records are legally required to be maintained for 7 years after the date of the last session. Records of children under 18 are maintained for 7 years after the individual's 18th birthday.

**Court Testimony Policy:**

If you are involved in a divorce or custody litigation, our role as a therapist is not to make recommendations for the court concerning custody or parenting issues or to testify in court concerning opinions on issues involved in the litigation. By signing this disclosure statement, you agree not to call or subpoena us as a witness in any such litigation. Experience has shown that testimony by therapists in domestic dispute cases causes damage to the clinical relationship between a therapist and client. The court can appoint professionals, who have no prior relationship with family members, to conduct an investigation or evaluation and to make recommendations to the court concerning parental responsibilities or parenting time in the best interests of the family's children.

**Regulatory Requirements Applicable to Mental Health Professionals:**

A registered psychotherapist is listed in the State's database and is authorized by law to practice psychotherapy in Colorado but is not licensed by the state and is not required to satisfy any standardized educational or testing requirements to obtain a registration from the state. A Certified Addiction Counselor I (CAC I) must be a high school graduate, complete required training hours, and 1,000 hours of supervised experience. A Certified Addiction Counselor II (CAC II) must complete additional required training hours and 2,000 hours of supervised experience. A Certified Addiction Counselor III (CAC III) must have a Bachelor's degree in behavioral health, complete additional required training hours, and 2,000 hours of supervised experience. A Licensed Addiction Counselor (LAC) must have a clinical Master's degree and meet the CAC III requirements. A Licensed Social Worker (LSW) must hold a Master's degree in social work. A Psychologist Candidate, Marriage and Family Therapist Candidate, and a Licensed Professional Counselor Candidate must hold the necessary licensing degree and be in the process of completing the required supervision for licensure. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), and a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) must hold a Master's degree in their profession and have two years of post-Master's supervision. A Licensed Psychologist must hold a doctorate degree in psychology and have one year of postdoctoral supervision.

The practice of licensed or registered persons in the field of psychotherapy is regulated by the Mental Health Section of the Division of Professions and Occupations. The Board can be reached at 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350, Denver, Colorado, 80202, 303.894.7800.

I have read the preceding information and I understand my rights as the client's responsible party. I attest that I have the authority to consent to counseling services and I willingly do so.

Print Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Parent or Responsible Party's Name and Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Responsible Party's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_