



## Virtual School Counseling Services

Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

With the growing concern regarding COVID-19 and the recent school closures, the counselors at Pine Lake want to ensure that your student continues to have access to support through our counseling resources offered on campus. We are aware that not all students and families have access to online access at home, yet we want to continue providing support to our students through different platforms. Each school counselor will be using phone calls and teleconference services to set up one-on-one sessions, group meetings, or conferences, as needed. Your school counselor will provide more information regarding the times they are available to meet and what this will look like.

Based on the American School Counselor (ASCA) standards, school counselors working with students in a virtual setting should:

- Adhere to the same ethical guidelines in a virtual setting as school counselors in a face-to-face setting
- Recognize and acknowledge the challenges and limitations of virtual school counseling
- Implement procedures for students to follow in both emergency and nonemergency situations when the school counselor is unavailable
- Recognize the limitations of virtual school counseling privacy and confidentiality, which may include unintended viewers, listeners or recipients
- Inform the student and parent/guardian of the benefits and limitations of virtual school counseling
- Educate students and guardians on how to participate in the electronic school counseling relationship to minimize and prevent potential misunderstandings that could occur due to the lack of verbal cues and inability to read body language or other visual cues that provide contextual meaning to the school counseling process and relationship
- Educate students about appropriate conduct in an online setting
- Incorporate lessons that align with academic, career and social-emotional domains

We understand that these next few weeks are going to look anything but routine and normal. As counselors we want to help support your child during this time in both their academic and social-emotional domains. Please know that we are here for you and you are not alone if you need to reach out to talk to someone. We also appreciate patience as we continue to maneuver and determine what virtual counseling will look like in each school and per grade level.

Your child's school counselor will be reaching out with a follow up letter in regards to how to set up meeting times online, schedule phone calls and help answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your continued support!

Aislinn Mayes-Lower School Counselor  
Natalie Goodwin-Middle School Counselor  
Amanda Rhoda-8th & 9th Grade Counselor  
Malinda Sadowski-Upper School Counselor  
Amanda Dworsky-Upper School Counselor