

**PROFESSIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**Rawlins Cooperative High School Counselor**

Public school counselors provide a support service program to help empower each student to fully function in society by assisting all students to reach their potential through a life-long learning process.

In general, I provide academic, career, crisis and short-term brief counseling. If students require more intensive help I will suggest they seek assistance outside the school setting. Carbon County School District Number One and its employees are not responsible for the payment of any therapist's fees if a student seeks counseling services outside the school setting, however we do have community programs that can help with these fees upon request.

This disclosure statement is required by the Mental Health Professional Licensing Act and by the Mental Health Professional Licensing Board, 1800 Carey Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cheyenne, WY 82002, (307) 777-3628

**Comprehensive School Counseling Program Staff**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Degrees</b>	<b>Universities</b>	<b>Licensure</b>
M. Faith Rael	School Counselor	B.A. M.S.	University of Wyoming University of Wyoming	

**Students' and Parents' Rights**

Students and their parents are entitled to know my qualifications. If you have any questions about my abilities and qualifications, please feel free to ask. You have a right to choose another school staff member if you feel that your school counselor does not meet your needs.

**As your counselor:**

1. I will inform you of purposes, goals, techniques and rules of procedure under which you receive counseling.
2. I will treat you with respect as a unique individual. I am concerned about your education, career, emotional and behavioral needs, and I will seek to encourage your development in each of these areas. To do this, from time to time, I may share information about you with other staff members at our school. I will only share information with other staff members if it is necessary to adequately evaluate, counsel and assist you with your personal, social, academic, and career development needs. Sharing is only done with your permission and knowledge of what will be shared.
3. I will protect the confidentiality of information received in our counseling relationship as specified by federal and state laws, written policies and ethical standards. I will also protect the confidentiality of your school records and release personal data only according to prescribed laws and school policies.
4. For any of the following matters, legally and ethically, I must break confidentiality and involve others who can help: (American Counseling Association Ethical Codes are cited in parentheses.)
  - a. If mandated by a court of law. (Section B1e)
  - b. If disclosure is required to prevent clear and imminent danger to you or others. (Section B1c)
  - c. If I am made aware of the potential or actual occurrence(s) of physical/sexual abuse of minor, personnel with disabilities and senior citizens. (Section B1c)
  - d. I will disclose information to an identified third party who is at high risk of contracting a disease from you that is both communicable and fatal, providing that you have not already informed him/her, or are not intending to do so. (Section B1d)

- e. I cannot guarantee confidentiality in group counseling sessions due to their nature and composition. All group members are admonished to not disclose personal information they learn about fellow group members as a part of the group counseling process to anyone outside the group. I cannot, however, ensure that they will always maintain confidentiality. (Section B2a)
- 5. As your counselor, I will respect the inherent rights and responsibilities of your parents and may share information with them about you. I am sensitive to the cultural and social diversity among families; and will adhere to the laws and local guidelines as they pertain to facilitating your maximum development and welfare. I recognize that all parents (custodial and non-custodial) are vested with certain rights and responsibilities for the welfare of their children by virtue of their position and according to law. (Section B3)
- 6. Counselors clearly define and maintain ethical, professional and social relationship boundaries with their students and supervisees. Sexual intimacy with a client is never appropriate. (Section F1b)
- 7. “33-38-113 Privileged Communication: In judicial proceedings, whether civil, criminal, or juvenile, in administrative proceedings, and in proceedings preliminary and ancillary thereto, a student, or his guardian or personal representative, may refuse to disclose and may prevent the disclosure of confidential information, including information contained in administrative records, communicated to a person licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under this act, and their agents for the purpose of diagnosis, evaluation or treatment of any mental or emotional condition or disorder. A person licensed otherwise authorized to practice under this action shall not disclose any information communicated as described above in the absence of an express waiver of the privilege except in the following circumstances:
  - i. Where abuse or harmful neglect of children, the elderly or disabled or incompetent individual is known or reasonably suspected;
  - ii. Where the validity of a will of a former student is contested;
  - iii. Where such information is necessary to defend against a malpractice action brought by the student or family;
  - iv. Where an immediate threat of physical violence against a readily identifiable victim is disclosed to the person licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under this act;
  - v. In the context of civil commitment proceedings, where an immediate threat of self-inflicted harm is disclosed to the person licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under this act;
  - vi. Where the student or family alleges mental or emotional damages in civil litigation or otherwise places his mental or emotional state in issue in any judicial or administrative proceeding concerning child custody or visitation;
  - vii. Where the patient or client is examined pursuant to court order; or in the context of investigations and hearings brought by the patient or client and conducted by the board, where violations of this act are at issue. Information that is deemed to be of a sensitive nature shall be inspected by the board in camera and the board shall determine whether or not the information shall become part of the record and subject to public disclosure.”

I will abide by all national and state laws pertaining to the ethical treatment of minors. I am are governed by the policies, procedures and standard practices as established by the State of Wyoming Department of Education and Albany County School District Number One Board Policy. Licensed Professional Counselors are also governed by the American Counseling Association Ethical Codes and the Wyoming Mental Health Licensing Board. I will adhere to the Code of Ethics of the American Counseling Association.

If I am are unable to help you resolve your concerns, or if you wish to obtain further information or report a complaint, you may contact the school principle or the Wyoming Mental Health Professions Licensing Board, (307777-7788).