

## **Grade 8**

Our Student Success Plan is built around three core components: Academic (A), Career (C), and Personal/Social Development (P/S).

### **Needs Assessment (A, C, P/S)**

Students complete a needs assessment in Naviance at the beginning of each school year to help identify areas of concern and assist in the goal setting process.

### **Developmental Counseling Lessons (A, C, P/S)**

The following topics are delivered in a classroom setting: Surviving Tests, Positive Self-Talk, Goal Setting, Study Skills and Organization, Learning Styles, Transition to High School, Course Selection and Scheduling, Tolerance, Managing Stressful Feelings, Cheating and Academic Integrity, Dependent vs. Independent Relationships, The Opposite Sex, Awareness of Self and Others, Risky Behavior, Self-Esteem, and Hopes, Fears, and Dreams.

### **Naviance Career Key (A, C)**

Students complete Career Key in Naviance as part of a series of developmental counseling lessons.

### **Planning Meetings (A, C, P/S)**

Students meet with their school counselor twice per year, once individually and once in a small group, to discuss progress on academic and personal goals.

### **Connections/Primetime Program (A, C, P/S)**

Topics in the three core component areas are addressed through activities conducted in extended homeroom periods on a weekly basis.

### **Problem-Based Learning Project (A, C, P/S)**

Students work in assigned groups to creatively answer a question or solve a problem using interdisciplinary and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

### **RTI/SRBI Assessments and Services (A)**

Students are monitored in the classroom in the areas of reading, writing, and math based on state performance standards.

### **504 and PPT Meetings (A, C, P/S)**

Annual meetings are held for identified students for the purpose of individualized educational planning.

### **Counseling Groups (A, P/S)**

School counselors offer groups during the year that address the following topics: New Students, Organization, Study Skills, Friendship, Divorce, Adoption, Bereavement, Anger Management, Stress, Social Skills, and Transition to High School. Students may refer themselves or be referred by a parent/guardian or staff member.

**Back to School Night (A, P/S)**

Parents follow their child's schedule to meet teachers and learn about the planned curriculum and expectations for each subject.

**Open Team Meetings (A, P/S)**

Parents have the opportunity to attend a meeting with their child's team teachers and counselor for an update on their curriculum.

**Parent Roundtable (A, P/S)**

Parents have the opportunity to attend a meeting by grade level that is topical based on the social-emotional and developmental appropriate needs of the students.

**New Student Orientation (A, P/S)**

Students new to the district attend New Student Orientation at the beginning of the school year and participate in a new student group with a school counselor.

**Transition to High School Program (A, C, P/S)**

To facilitate a successful transition to high school, the following activities are provided: developmental counseling lessons; Eighth Grade Parent Night; Curriculum Night; informational meetings with assigned high school counselor, Student Ambassadors, and assistant principal at the middle schools; course selection with middle school counselor; course schedule review with high school counselor; small-group informational meetings with Student Ambassadors at the high school; and transition PPT and 504 meetings.

In addition, high school and middle school staffs communicate throughout the transition process, including meetings between academic department chairs and middle school teachers and counselors as well as meetings between high school and middle school counselors.