

1 Great Falls School District

2  
3 **INSTRUCTION**

2140

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5 Guidance and Counseling

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7 The District recognizes that guidance and counseling are an integral part of the total program of  
8 instruction and should be provided in accordance with State laws and regulations, District  
9 policies and procedures, and available staff and program support.

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11 The general goal of this program is to help students achieve the greatest personal value from  
12 their educational opportunities. Such a program should:

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14 1. Provide staff with meaningful information, which can be utilized to improve the  
15 educational services offered to individual students.  
16 2. Provide students with planned opportunities to develop future career and educational  
17 plans.  
18 3. Refer students with special needs to appropriate specialists and agencies.  
19 4. Aid students in identifying options and making choices about their educational program.  
20 5. Assist teachers and administrators in meeting academic, social, and emotional needs of  
21 students.  
22 6. Provide for a follow-up of students who further their education and/or move into the  
23 workforce.  
24 7. Solicit feedback from students, staff, and parents for purposes of program improvement.  
25 8. Assist students in developing a sense of belonging and self-respect.  
26 9. Have information available about nicotine addiction services and referrals to tobacco  
27 cessation programs to students and staff.  
28 10. Be available as a reference for alternative discipline or restorative justice programs.

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30 All staff will encourage students to explore and develop their individual interests in all areas  
31 including but not limited to career and technical programs, academic curricula, post-secondary  
32 opportunities, community or military service, and employment options without regard to race,  
33 color, national origin, ancestry, sex, ethnicity, language barrier, religious belief, physical or  
34 mental handicap or disability, economic or social condition, actual or potential marital or  
35 parental status.

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37 The District may utilize a career coach for educational and career counseling opportunities for  
38 students to offer opportunities for internships or apprenticeships within a community and assist  
39 students with high school course offerings, career options, occupational training, and  
40 postsecondary opportunities associated with the student's field of interest within the career  
41 technical education and K-12 career and vocational/technical education programs provided for in  
42 Title 20, Chapter 7, Part 3. Any career coach shall possess the necessary qualifications specified  
43 in law.  
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1 Legal References:

- 2 § 20-1-101(8) Definitions  
3 § 49-3-203, MCA Educational, Counseling and Training Programs  
4 10.55.710, ARM Assignment of Guidance Staff  
5 10.55.802, ARM Opportunity and Education Equity  
6 Chapter 724 (2023) Career Coaches

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8 Policy History:

- 9 Adopted on: July 1, 2000  
10 Revised on: November 9, 2015  
11 Revised on: January 10, 2022  
12 Revised on: August 21, 2023