

# Guiding Principles of the Pittsford School Counseling Program

- School counseling programs serve all students.
- Every student in grades K-12 is entitled to equal access to the school counseling program.
- Every student can learn and succeed at high standards and can reach his/her potential.
- Students develop individually and have ethnic, cultural, racial and other differences. All must be assisted in developing at their own rate, with academic, career and personal/social skills monitored by individual learning plans.
- School counseling programs are comprehensive in scope, developmental in nature, proactive in design and responsive to societal trends.
- School counseling programs support student academic, career, and personal/social development to assist students in acquiring knowledge and skills for success in the real world.
- School counseling programs have a delivery system which includes school guidance curriculum, individual planning, responsive services and a support system.
- School counseling programs are most effective when delivered in collaboration and partnership with students, families, community members, educators and administrators certified school counselors in collaboration with teachers, administrators, parents and other school staff.
- School counseling programs use data to drive program decisions, review programs annually, and analyze data to seek continuous improvement.
- School counselors are certified professional educators and mental health providers with unique skills.
- To implement a solid school counseling program, the school counselors must believe in the importance of ascribing to the ASCS Code of Ethics and believe that ongoing professional development is essential.