



# Student Support Team Night & Specialty Sessions

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INNOVATION ACADEMY COUNSELING



MS. JACKSON  
LAST NAMES A-E



MS. POTTS  
LAST NAMES F-L



MS. BUTLER  
LAST NAMES M-R



MS. CHILSON  
LAST NAMES S-Z



MS. MORAN  
DEPT. CHAIR  
COUNSELING  
PROGRAMMING

# Innovation Academy Counseling Team Introductions

# Core Responsibilities

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## **Academic Support**

- Assisting with course selection
- Developing study skills and time management
- Monitoring academic progress

## **Social and Emotional Development**

- Providing individual counseling for personal issues
- Conducting group counseling sessions
- Implementing anti-bullying programs

## **Career Planning and College Readiness**

- Helping students explore career options
- Organizing college fairs and visits
- Assisting with college applications and scholarships

## **Crisis Intervention**

- Role in crisis situations (e.g., grief counseling, conflict resolution)
- Collaborating with external mental health resources
- Creating a safe school environment



# Core Responsibilities

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## **Collaboration with Stakeholders**

- Working with teachers, administrators, and parents
- Involvement in IEPs and 504 plans
- Community outreach and partnerships

## **Ethical and Legal Responsibilities**

- Maintaining student confidentiality
- Adhering to ethical guidelines (e.g., ASCA standards)
- Understanding legal obligations

## **Data-Driven Practices**

- Using data to identify student needs
- Evaluating the effectiveness of counseling programs
- Adjusting strategies based on outcomes



# School Counselors

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School Counselors  
work to create a  
future world where  
all students thrive.



# Some Programming Offered

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Junior/Senior  
Meetings

Parent Nights

College  
Recommendations

College Fairs

College Tours

College Admission  
Workshops

Signs of Suicide

Scheduling  
Education

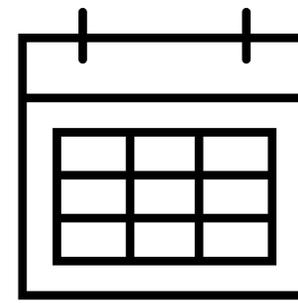
Dual Enrollment

4 Year Plan

Career Explorations



# SAVE THE DATE



Junior Meetings Begin September 8<sup>th</sup> - October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Click the link below to Schedule an Appointment with your counselor:

Ms. Jackson



[BOOK AN APPOINTMENT](#)

Ms. Potts



[BOOK AN APPOINTMENT](#)

Ms. Butler



[BOOK AN APPOINTMENT](#)

Ms. Chilson



[BOOK AN APPOINTMENT](#)



A-E

F-L

M-R

S-Z

# When Should you Reach Out to the School Counselor?

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- **Academic Concerns**
- **Behavioral Issues**
- **Emotional and Mental Health**
- **Social Issues**
- **Personal Issues Affecting School Life**
- **Career and College Guidance**
- **Crisis Situations**



# Student Support Team

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- Niki McKenzie (College & Career Advisor)
- Melissa Balser (MTSS/Grad Coach)
- Brady Varga (Social Worker)
- Beth Hudec (IST)
- Robert Shultz (School Psychologist)
- Allison Herndon (504/RTI)
- Samantha Feldschneider (Registrar)
- Gina Danner & Bev Shiotelis (Virtual Support)
- Alexis Durham & Patrick Haley (Summit Counseling)



# MTSS/Graduation Coach – Melissa Balsler

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Graduation coaches play a crucial role in ensuring that all students, especially those at risk of dropping out, have the support they need to succeed and graduate on time. They often work closely with school counselors, teachers, and administrators to create a comprehensive support network for students.

Identify At-Risk Students

Academic Support

Attendance Monitoring

Mentoring

Monitoring and Reporting

# Instructional Support Teacher – Beth Hudec

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Direct Support for Students

Collaboration with  
Classroom Teachers

Assessment and  
Monitoring

Professional Development

Family and Community  
Engagement

The role of an Instructional Support Teacher is integral to ensuring that all students, especially those who face learning challenges, have the opportunity to succeed academically. They act as a bridge between students' needs and effective instructional practices, ensuring a supportive and inclusive learning environment.

# School Psychologist – Robert Shultz

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Advocacy

Program Development

Intervention and Support

Assessment, Evaluation  
and Observations

Crisis Intervention

Consultation

Meetings

Training and Education

A school psychologist is a specialized professional who works within educational settings to support the mental health, learning, and behavior of students. They play a crucial role in promoting students' overall well-being and helping them succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.

# 504/RTI Coordinator – Allison Herndon

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504/RTI Coordinator in a high school is responsible for managing and overseeing the implementation of Section 504 plans and the Response to Intervention (RTI) process. Their primary goal is to ensure that students with disabilities or those struggling academically receive the appropriate support and accommodations to succeed in school.

Development of 504  
Plans

Implementation and  
Monitoring

Compliance

RTI Process Management

Data Collection and  
Analysis

Teacher Support and  
Collaboration

# School Social Work - Brady Varga, LCSW

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A school social worker is a professional who supports the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students, helping to create a positive and safe learning environment. They play a crucial role in bridging the gap between home, school, and the community, ensuring that students have the resources and support they need to succeed academically and personally.

Provides support to students and families to overcome the social, behavioral, emotional or economic problems that prevent learning

Makes appropriate referrals for professional and community services

Follows up to assure that services are provided and conditions improve

Works closely with teachers and school administrators



# Summit Counselors



**Alexis Durham, MS, LAPC**  
adurham@summitcounseling.org



**Patrick Haley, MS**  
phaley@summitcounseling.org



*Visit Our Website To:*  
Learn More  
Schedule an Appointment  
View Group Schedules



# **INNOVATION ACADEMY PTSO, INC.**

MISSION STATEMENT

**INNOVATION ACADEMY PTSO, INC. IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND PARENTS TO HAVE THEIR VOICES HEARD AND VALUED. OUR MISSION IS TO INSTILL A CULTURE BASED ON A LOVE OF LEARNING, DIVERSITY OF THOUGHT, AND SOLID STEM FOUNDATION THAT SEEKS TO SERVE EVERY CHILD.**

# WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN THE PTSO?

**THE PTSO PAYS FOR SUPPLIES AND EXPERIENCES OUTSIDE OF WHAT THE SCHOOL IS GIVEN BY THE COUNTY BUDGET.**

**WE PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL \$15,000 - \$20,000 FOR THE SUPER FLEX FRIDAY PROJECTS. Without our support, these opportunities would not be available.**

**FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ARE THE SINGLE BIGGEST MEANS OF OUR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO THE SCHOOL. By joining, you are directly funding the educational opportunities to your student!**

**DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!**

- **Teacher Grants**

Work Display case  
Mini GC and Polarimeter  
EEG headband Kits  
Ganglion Board Kit

- **Phoenix Fest**

- **Senior Scholarship**

- **Campus Improvements**

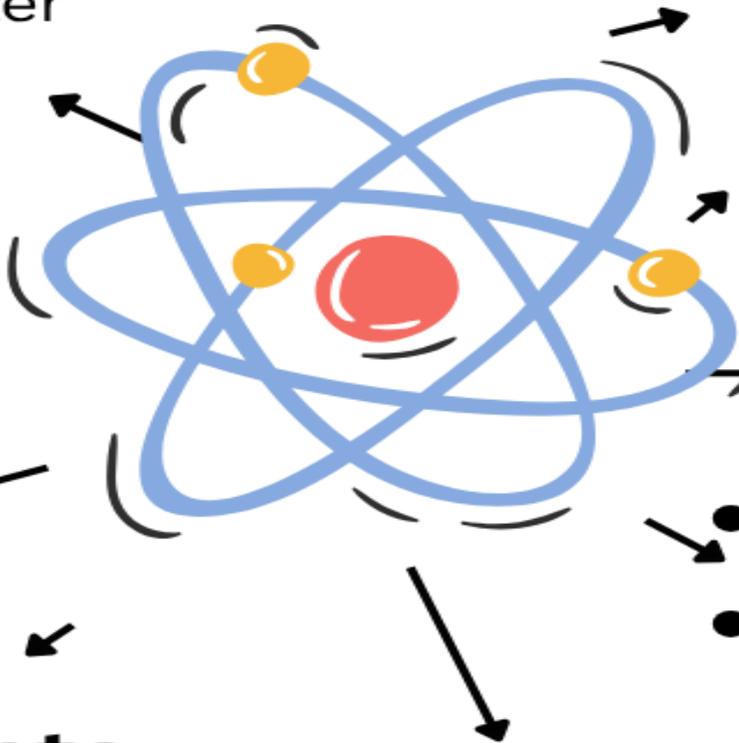
- **Evening of Excellence**

- **Flex Friday**

- **World Of IA**

- **Pathway and Spirit Wear**

- **Teacher and Staff Appreciation**



# PTSO Teacher Grant Winners

The PTSO enthusiastically supported over \$26,000 worth of materials and experiences that IA teachers and staff members sought in Mini-Grants! PTSO Mini-grants help support the innovative learning going on in the classroom!

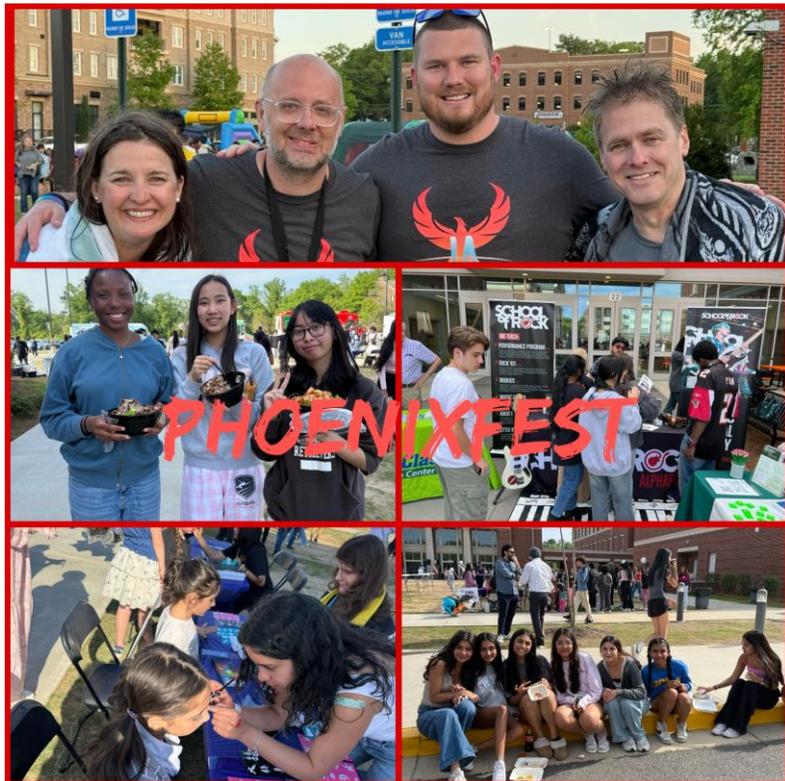
## Fall Semester:

- Student Work Display Case
- Mini GC and Polarimeter to Synthesize Organic Compounds
- Strong Women in Engineering at Auburn University
- Ganglion Board and OpenBCI EEG Headband kit to Study Brainwaves
- Dramatic Writing Coursebooks
- Vernier Go Direct Mini GC to Study Chemical Analysis of Molecules

## Spring Semester:

- BlueRay and Assorted DVD Collections for Creative Writing
- Atlanta Shakespeare Company Performance for 9th Grade Lit
- Genotype to Phenotype: PTC Taster Lab to Study Genetics
- ZWO ASIAR Plus controller for the School Telescope Camera
- Gene Sequences Nanopore Sequencer and Flongle Flow Cells
- Dad's Garage Improve Workshops for Cultivate
- 3M Littman Classic III Monitoring Stethoscope
- Multicolor Ink Cartridges for the eXchange Printers
- Assorted Supplies for the Student Support Team
- Paver Patio for Outdoor Space





# Celebrating Our Community: Teachers Appreciation Week · Seniors · Phoenix Fest

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# IA Strong: Support Teacher Lounges

## • Pathway Declarations • Senior Scholarship

### HELP US STOCK THE STAFF SUPPLY CLOSET!

IA PTSO collects popular supplies that are the most needed throughout the year. As you do your school shopping, please consider picking up some extra items to contribute!

Sharpies, Pens, Dry Erase Board Supplies, and Colored Paper are the most urgently needed items!



### There are 2 Ways To Send in items:

Amazon Wish List



**1) HAVE YOUR STUDENT DROP ITEMS ON THE PTSO SUPPLY DRIVE CART NEAR THE FRONT OFFICE**

**2) PURCHASE THROUGH OUR AMAZON WISH LIST AND HAVE ITEMS DELIVERED TO THE SCHOOL**



# PTSO SUPPORTS SUPER FLEX FRIDAYS



Cosmic  
Odyssey

OCTOBER 20, 2023



IAPTSO SENIOR CELEBRATION DUES

**\$85 PER SENIOR**

INCLUDES:

CLASS OF 2026 T-SHIRT  
CUSTOM SENIOR SWAG  
MONTHLY SENIOR TREATS  
SENIOR LUNCH



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CONSIDER  
DONATING MORE  
THAN \$85 TO  
HELP FUND ALL  
SENIORS

SENIOR CELEBRATION DUES ARE DUE SEPTEMBER 25TH  
ANY QUESTIONS EMAIL SENIORSUPPORT@IAPTSO.ORG

# PTSO

## Senior Celebration Dues

Visit the PTSO online store to pay your dues!

[Innovation Academy High School PTSO, Inc. - Senior News](#)





**BUSINESS SPONSORSHIPS  
AVAILABLE**



**KROGER REWARDS -  
ENROLL WITH  
“IA PTSO, Inc.” as  
Community Rewards**



**CORPORATE  
MATCHING**



**SUPPLY DONATIONS -  
AMAZON WISHLIST IN  
NEWSLETTER**



**DONATE GIFT CARDS  
TO PTSO FOR  
SUPPLIES**

# **OTHER DONATION OPPORTUNITIES**

# HOW TO JOIN AND VOLUNTEER

GO TO [IAPTSO.ORG](https://iaptso.org) to  
learn about  
Membership Levels,  
meet the Executive  
Board, and volunteer

- Create a Membership Profile at [iaptso.org](https://iaptso.org)
- Become a member, shop for spiritwear & sign up to volunteer!
- We have a variety of giving levels, from \$25 - \$1000.



[iaptso.org](https://iaptso.org)

# Meeting Norms

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- Please do not jump in and out of sessions, it is distracting to the presenters
- When entering a session please immediately mute yourself
- Use the hand raise feature to raise your hand to ask a question at the end of the presentation
- Honor the time limit of each session
- Reminder – We will be posting the sessions on the counseling website (give us a bit of time to compile everything)

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE REST OF THE SESSIONS,  
THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

IA Student Support Team

