



Elementary School Counseling Program



Harford County Public Schools
Office of School Counseling
Phone: 410-588-5245

Qualifications

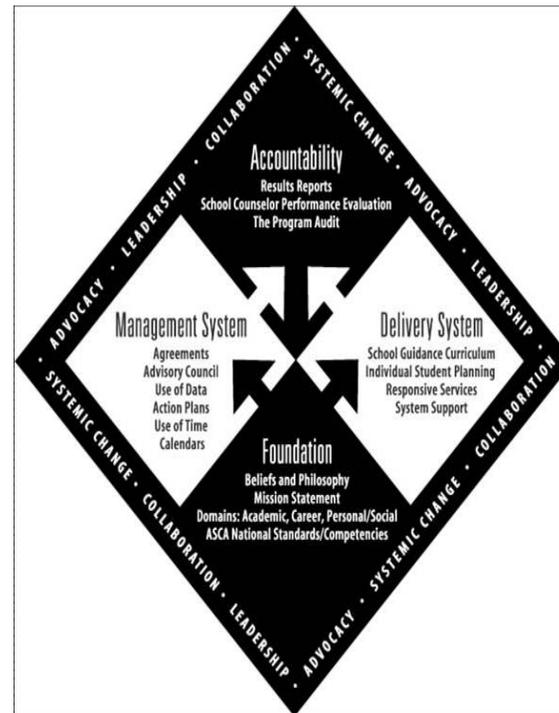
An elementary counselor in Harford County Public Schools has at least a Master's Degree in school counseling and is certified by the Maryland State Department of Education.

Student Services

School counselors, pupil personnel workers, school nurses, school social workers, and school psychologists are a team of persons, within the school system and the Division of Student Services. They are available to ensure opportunities for students to develop their full potential.

My counselor _____

School phone _____



Information contained in this brochure is taken from *Sharing the Vision: National Standards for School Counseling Programs*. American School Counselor Association, 1999.



Why Elementary School Counselors?

Elementary school years set the tone for developing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for children to become healthy, productive adults.

With a comprehensive developmental counseling program that is based on National Standards, counselors work as a team with school staff, parents and community to create a caring atmosphere where children's needs are met through prevention, early identification, and intervention.

Counselor:

Classroom guidance



Small group counseling



Individual counseling

Collaborator:

Classroom visitation



Teacher/counselor planning



Conferences with teacher, parent, counselor and child



In-services for teachers

Consultant:

Referral to community resources and agencies



Parent conferences



Parent study groups/newsletters



PTA meetings

The elementary school counselor functions within the educational framework and within the child's total environment to enable each child to learn to make choices that lead to responsible behavior.

The school counseling program provides elementary students with assistance in many areas.

Adjusting to a new school or a new grade level



Learning to make decisions



Practicing student-learner competencies



Developing pro-social skills needed to work cooperatively with others



Talking about educational, personal, or social concerns



Knowing about the world of work



Becoming aware of self



Building self-confidence and self-esteem



Developing and practicing good character

The School Counseling programs in Harford County Public School are based on the American School Counselor Association's National Standards. These National Standards facilitate student development in three broad content areas:

Academic Development

Career Development

Personal/Social Development

The national standards:

- Establish school counseling as an integral part of the academic mission of schools;
- Encourage equitable access to school counseling services for all students;
- Identify the key components of a developmental school counseling program;
- Identify the attitudes, knowledge and skills that all students should acquire as a result of the K – 12 school counseling program; and
- Ensure that school counseling programs are comprehensive in design and delivered in a systematic fashion for all students.