

How Do School Counselors Help You and Your Family

The Spencer Community Schools in cooperation with parents and community will provide a safe and nurturing environment where all students will develop maximum knowledge, skills and abilities to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

What Is A School Counselor?

- ◆ Acertified, specially trained, caring person
 - ◆ A school person who provides guidance to ALL students
 - ◆ A resource person
 - ◆ A coordinator
 - ◆ A consultant
 - ◆ A group leader
 - ◆ A teacher
 - ◆ A person who helps students, teachers, parents, and administrators.
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What Does A School Counselor Do?

- ◆ Works with individuals and groups
 - ◆ Helps identify needs of children
 - ◆ Encourages better student relationships
 - ◆ Promotes positive attitudes and choices
 - ◆ Aids teachers and parents in helping children
 - ◆ Assists people in making better use of community resources
 - ◆ Reviews test results to provide information about abilities, needs, achievements, and interests
 - ◆ Assists students with the growing-up process
 - ◆ Coordinates efforts with other school specialists
 - ◆ Coordinates referrals to outside agencies
 - ◆ Facilitates discussion groups
 - ◆ Provides inservice for faculty
 - ◆ Participates in curriculum development
 - ◆ Lends support to school, career, and personal plans
 - ◆ Maintains confidences
 - ◆ Provides "preventative" counseling.
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What is the Purpose of Individual Counseling, Group Meetings, and Classroom Guidance?

- ◆ To help students to develop self-understanding and self-awareness.
- ◆ To build self-confidence and self-esteem.
- ◆ To encourage students to recognize and make the best use of their capabilities.
- ◆ To provide opportunities for students to feel successful.
- ◆ To give students an opportunity to talk about educational and personal-social concerns.

- ◆ To encourage students to recognize, understand, and work through learning difficulties.
 - ◆ To help students better adjust to school and home environments.
 - ◆ To develop students' awareness of the world of work.
 - ◆ To teach students the decision-making/ problem-solving process.
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Who Seeks Help From The Counselor?

Students

- ◆ I'm new here and the other kids aren't very friendly.
- ◆ My parents and I just don't get along.
- ◆ I don't think I'm going to pass.
- ◆ I don't have a problem - I just want to tell you that my dog died.
- ◆ I just have to talk to someone who won't laugh at me.
- ◆ I don't know what I want to do when I graduate.

Teachers / Administrators

- ◆ I need some ideas for helping my students get along together.
- ◆ I have a student who disrupts class everyday.
- ◆ I have a student who is absent so often.
- ◆ I have a student who is not passing my class.
- ◆ I have a new student who needs some special attention.
- ◆ I have a student who just hasn't been herself lately.

Parents

- ◆ My son has temper tantrums that I can't control.
 - ◆ My daughter doesn't seek out friends and is alone most of the time.
 - ◆ My daughter scores high on standardized tests but barely makes passing grades.
 - ◆ My son has nightmares and has trouble going to sleep at night.
 - ◆ We can't seem to get through to our daughter.
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With Whom Does a Counselor Consult?

Teachers - Parents - Administrators - Pupil Personnel Workers - Community Resource Personnel - Physicians - Psychologists - Mental Health Professionals - School Nurses

How Does The Student See The Counselor?

Self Referral - Teacher Referral - Parent Referral - Administrative Referral - Referral By A Friend

How Does A Counselor Become Knowledgeable Of Current Trends In Guidance And Counseling?

- ◆ Inservice training sessions
 - ◆ Workshops and Seminars
 - ◆ Conventions and conferences
 - ◆ Continuing education
 - ◆ Regular inter-school counselor meetings
 - ◆ Regional, state and national association meetings
 - ◆ Site visitations.
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Your School Counselor is a Professional, a Specialist, and an Educator

A school counselor is a professionally trained specialist with a Master's degree and a strong background in the behavioral sciences and human relations. Counselors are involved in school procedures and curriculum. They are specialists in identifying school and personal problems; in helping students deal with social problems; and in facilitating the planning of future education and training. School counselors assist students in the development of those lifelong skills necessary for optimum character development, coping with life's difficulties, and building cohesive relationships.

FOR ANY QUESTIONS OF ANY KIND, feel free to contact your school counselor.
They are there to listen, to help you, and to work with you.

High School 262-1700
Middle School 262-3345
Fairview Elementary 262-4842
Jefferson Elementary 262-2882
Johnson Elementary 262-2710
Lincoln Elementary 262-3752

Counseling Is Caring

