Webinar Series

The Role of the School Counselor in Promoting Cybersecurity Career Opportunities
April 15, 2020
WHO ARE SCHOOL COUNSELORS?

School counselors are certified/licensed educators who improve student success for ALL students by implementing a comprehensive school counseling program.

EMPLOYED AT ALL LEVELS

- Elementary
- Middle/Junior High
- High School

Also employed in district supervisory positions; and school counselor education positions.

SCHOOL COUNSELOR QUALIFICATIONS

- Hold, at minimum, a master’s degree in school counseling
- Meet the state certification/licensure standards
- Fulfill continuing education requirements
- Uphold ASCA ethical and professional standards

SCHOOL COUNSELOR’S ROLE

School counselors are vital members of the education team and maximize student success.

- Help all students:
  - apply academic achievement strategies
  - manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills
  - plan for postsecondary options (higher education, military, work force)

- Appropriate duties include providing:
  - individual student academic planning and goal setting
  - school counseling classroom lessons based on student success standards
  - short-term counseling to students
  - referrals for long-term support
  - collaboration with families/teachers/administrators/community for student success
  - advocacy for students at individual education plan meetings and other student-focused meetings
  - data analysis to identify student issues, needs, and challenges

IDEAL CASELOAD

250 students per school counselor

For more information, resources please visit www.schoolcounselor.org
Research on Schools with Comprehensive Counseling Program

Increased

• Graduation Rates
• Math and reading
• 3rd grade reading proficiency
• Scores on state tests
• ACT scores
• Students taking ACT
• Attendance
Research on Schools with Comprehensive Counseling Program

**Decreased**

- Suspension rates
- Discipline referrals
- Student reports bullied/teased
The ASCA Mindsets & Behaviors for Student Success: K-12 College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Every Student

Each of the following standards can be applied to the academic, career and social/emotional domains.

### Category 1: Mindset Standards

School counselors encourage the following mindsets for all students.

1. Belief in development of whole self, including a healthy balance of mental, social/emotional and physical well-being
2. Self-confidence in ability to succeed
3. Sense of belonging in the school environment
4. Understanding that postsecondary education and life-long learning are necessary for long-term career success
5. Belief in using abilities to their fullest to achieve high-quality results and outcomes
6. Positive attitude toward work and learning

### Category 2: Behavior Standards

Students will demonstrate the following standards through classroom lessons, activities and/or individual/small-group counseling.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Strategies</th>
<th>Self-Management Skills</th>
<th>Social Skills</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrate critical-thinking skills to make informed decisions</td>
<td>1. Demonstrate ability to assume responsibility</td>
<td>1. Use effective oral and written communication skills and listening skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Demonstrate creativity</td>
<td>2. Demonstrate self-discipline and self-control</td>
<td>2. Create positive and supportive relationships with other students</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Use time-management, organizational and study skills</td>
<td>3. Demonstrate ability to work independently</td>
<td>3. Create relationships with adults that support success</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Apply media and technology skills</td>
<td>5. Demonstrate perseverance to achieve long- and short-term goals</td>
<td>5. Demonstrate ethical decision-making and social responsibility</td>
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<td>6. Set high standards of quality</td>
<td>6. Demonstrate ability to overcome barriers to learning</td>
<td>6. Use effective collaboration and cooperation skills</td>
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<td>7. Identify long- and short-term academic, career and social/emotional goals</td>
<td>7. Demonstrate effective coping skills when faced with a problem</td>
<td>7. Use leadership and teamwork skills to work effectively in diverse teams</td>
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<td>8. Actively engage in challenging coursework</td>
<td>8. Demonstrate the ability to balance school, home and community activities</td>
<td>8. Demonstrate advocacy skills and ability to assert self when necessary</td>
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<td>9. Gather evidence and consider multiple perspectives to make informed decisions</td>
<td>9. Demonstrate personal safety skills</td>
<td>9. Demonstrate social maturity and behaviors appropriate to the situation and environment</td>
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<td>10. Participate in enrichment and extracurricular activities</td>
<td>10. Demonstrate ability to manage transitions and ability to adapt to changing situations and responsibilities</td>
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The School Counselor and Career Development (Adopted 2017)

American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Position

School counselors implementing comprehensive programs strive to have an impact on student growth in three domains: academic development, career development, and social/emotional development (ASCA, 2012). School counselors recognize students should demonstrate growth in these domains equally to be successful. School counselors understand these domains are not considered separate but are interconnected, each affecting the other (Scheuch, Ansell, & Smith, 2010). Although this statement focuses on career development, it is understood academic development and social/emotional development need to be considered with equal diligence.

The Rationale

Workforce projections call for graduating secondary students to have at least some postsecondary education to fulfill the demands of work (Camero, South, & Smith, 2010). School counselors recognize that each student, regardless of background, possesses unique interests, abilities and goals, which will lead to future opportunities. Collaborating with students, families, educational staff and the community, the school counselor works to ensure all students select a postsecondary path to productive citizenship (e.g., military, career technical certificate or two-year degree program) appropriate for the student.

ASCA recognizes career education begins in kindergarten and is exemplified by students who are knowledgeable about options and are prepared to enroll and succeed in any postsecondary experience without the need for remediation. ASCA recognizes all students possess the skills and knowledge needed to qualify for and succeed in their chosen field (Ceney, 2013).

The School Counselor’s Role

School counselors play a critical role in students’ career development by:

- Introducing careers and the world of work beginning in lower elementary grades (pre-K to 3rd)
- Providing opportunities to engage students in “life roles including learner and worker” (Gysbers, 2013)
- Providing learning and experiential opportunities for students to acquire behaviors and skills for career readiness (Gysbers, 2013)
- Matching students with students to identify their interests, abilities, specific career clusters (Stipanicic, 2010) and postsecondary plans (many states mandate an academic/career action plan as a graduation requirement)
- Helping students understand the connection between school and the world of work
- Helping students plan the transition from school to postsecondary education and/or the world of work (ASCA, 2014)
- Advising students on multiple postsecondary pathways (e.g., college, career-specific credentials and certifications, apprenticeships, military, service-year programs, full-time employment with a family-supporting wage) (Chicago Public Schools Multiple Postsecondary Pathways Framework)
- Connecting students to early college programs (e.g., dual credit/dual enrollment)
- Collaborating with administration, teachers, staff and decision makers to create a postsecondary-readiness and college-going culture
- Providing and advocating for individual pre-K through postsecondary students’ college and career awareness through exploration and postsecondary planning and decision making, which supports students’ right to choose from the wide array of options after completing secondary education
- Identifying gaps in college and career access and the implications of such data for addressing both intentional
Q & A
Elementary Career Discovery

Career Exploration in Elementary School: Where Futures Start

Students cannot be what they cannot see. In DPS, our students are discovering what’s possible and exploring their dreams. Beginning in elementary school, we inspire, challenge and empower our students to embrace education as an adventure to explore a variety of career paths to exciting destinations.

Who are elementary school counselors?

- School counselors help students explore their dreams and connect them with tools and experiences for career, college and high school.
- Our school counselors are friendly helpers who are licensed professionals with master’s degrees who support students’ social, emotional academic and career/college needs.
- They collaborate with parents, educators and community members to ensure students are getting the best experience possible throughout their DPS journey.

Counselors help students think about “what’s next” along their educational journey and bring them career and college opportunities, including:

- Interest exploration activities
- Career visit days
- College tours
- Career fairs
- Lessons on ways to pay for college, different types of degrees and industries

Interested in learning more about career and college exploration?
Elementary Career Discovery
Q & A
Middle School Exploration
District-wide 8\textsuperscript{th} Grade Career Fair
MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELORS: PROMOTE CAREER DEVELOPMENT

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE AND DEEPEN COLLEGE AND CAREER KNOWLEDGE

Nwakaego Edordu Oriji
Counselor Facilitator
Garland ISD
TO EFFECTIVELY ADVISE STUDENTS REGARDING CAREERS IN CYBERSECURITY WE NEED TO HAVE A KNOWLEDGE OF:

- REQUIRED EDUCATION
- CERTIFICATIONS
- SCHOOLS THAT OFFER THE MAJORS/TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
- CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Counselors attend professional development such as state and national conferences to learn about the latest opportunities available for students. Google is a great tool too! We also use career programs (Naviance) to assist our students in learning about careers.
ACTIVITIES/EVENTS TO PROMOTE CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- Classroom Instruction/Advisement
- Career Days/Panels
- Chat and Chews
- Parent Nights
- Collegiate Academy & Industry Partner Fairs
CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION/ADVISEMENT

Classroom Instruction:
Counseling topics offered to all students in a classroom setting

Advisement:
Individual counseling session discussing a student’s academic interests and needs
Career day is dedicated to highlighting a variety of careers. College and career panels include career professionals. Students prepare questions to ask each panelists.
CHAT & CHEWS

Industry Partners/Career professionals invited to discuss programs with students during lunch
Parent Nights

Parents are invited to an evening meeting to learn of career opportunities available for students
Collegiate academies offer students the opportunity to earn certifications or associate degrees in areas of interest while in high school. These academies collaborate with industry partners to obtain internships and practical career training for students.
Q & A
High School Planning

“We got to dissect a lamb’s heart and puncture a lamb’s eyeball. It was just really gross but it was cool... After high school and like 100 years of medical school and college, I would like to be a surgeon.”

- Hugh
CPC Early College

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**DPS CareerConnect**
- **Spark**
  INDUSTRY INTRODUCTION PROGRAM

**DPS CareerConnect**
- **Xplore**
  INDUSTRY EXPLORATION PROGRAM

**DPS CareerConnect Launch**
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

**DPS CareerConnect**
- **Chat and Challenge**
  VIRTUAL EXPLORATION PROGRAM

**DPS CareerConnect**
- **Coach**
  MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

**DPS CareerConnect**
- **Youth Apprenticeship Program**
  IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CAREERWISE COLORADO
Q & A
Thank You for Joining Us!

**Upcoming Webinar:** “Challenging Assumptions: What We Are Learning During The Pandemic About The Continuity of Learning and Skills Development”

**When:** Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 2:00pm EDT

**Register:** [https://nist-nice.adobeconnect.com/webinarmay2020/event/registration.html](https://nist-nice.adobeconnect.com/webinarmay2020/event/registration.html)

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