## Role of a School Counselor

Not your average Guidance Counselor, We are School Counselors. "Every Child Deserves A School Counselor"

### History

The School Counseling framework has evolved overtime from simply guidance.

 We are no longer Guidance Counselors, the preferred name and title based on ASCA is School Counselor.

The title School Counselor encompasses the diversity and broad scope of the duties.

## American School Counselor Association: What is a Certified School Counselor?

#### A Certified School Counselor is a professional that:

Possesses a Master's Degree in Counseling with a concentration in School Counseling.

- Has unique theoretical and developmental training.
- Has a holistic viewpoint of children to address the forever growing and changing needs of the 21st century learner.
- Works collaboratively with key stakeholders to meet the academic, social -emotional, and post secondary needs.

### The role and responsibility of a School Counselor

#### As defined by ASCA and NYSCCA:

- ★ Direct services: responsive services, crisis response, group, individual, appraisal, assessment, advisement, developing post- HS plans, and encourage parental involvement.
- ★ Indirect services: collaboration, consultations, referral, leadership, advocacy and teaming.
- ★ Annual student progress review: review students goals, academic, behaviors and attendance progress with grades 6-12 yearly.
- ★ Core instruction and lesson plans: Provide students with classroom instruction coupled with lesson plans that are aligned with ASCA.
- ★ Data Driven practices: Use of data to inform decisions, pre and post test/surveys.
- ★ Has a caseload of no more than 1:250 students.

## RCSD School Counseling Mission

To provide a comprehensive, developmentally age-appropriate and sequential school counseling program that is aligned with the New York State Learning Standards and national (ASCA) and state (NYSSCA) standards.

School Counselors address the academic, career and social-emotional development needs of students with a global perspective. School Counselors work collaboratively with families, staff, and community partners to prepare students to become effective 21st century learners, achieve success in school, and develop into contributing members of our society.

### RCSD School Counselor Vision

Every student will acquire the academic and social-emotional skills, postsecondary preparation and career exploration to reach their fullest educational potential.

### **Multi-Tiered System of Supports**

- Academic advisement
- Individual student planning
- Grade level core curriculum instruction K-12
- •Annual progress review 6-12

**ALL** 

~5%
FEW Tier 3
Specialized,

SOME

Effective for ~15%

individual students

Targeted, groups of students

Tier 2

- Home visits
- Individual counseling
- Referral for outside services
  - Group counseling
  - Peer helper programs
  - Parent/teacher/ student conferences

Effective for ~80% of students

Tier 1

School-wide, accessed by all students
Screening, instruction and prevention focused

## **New School Counseling Regulations**

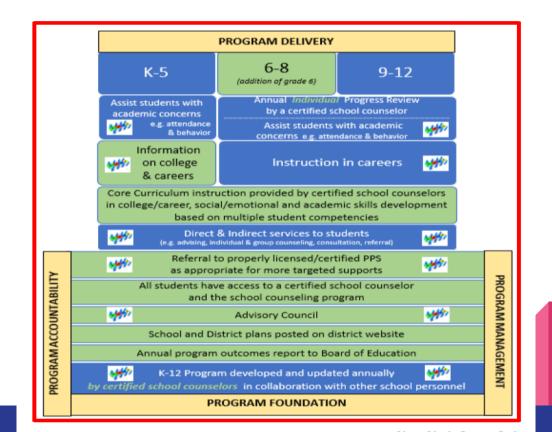
The work of the school counselor is viewed as important role for students, families, and the community at large. Evidenced by the American School Counselor Association and New York state rules and regulations that govern school counseling.

Part 100.2(j)

Part 80

Part 52.21

## Part 100(j) - Requirements for School Counselors



### Comprehensive School Counseling Plan

#### **Per NYS Mandate:**

- Each school district must create a comprehensive school counseling plan aligned with ASCA and NYS standards. (policy adopted in July 2017).
- Plans must be completed, and available on district website by September 2020.
- Plans are utilized by all counselors to streamline duties and provide more consistency across the district.
- Plan includes using the village approach to meet the needs of all students.

## RCSD Comprehensive School Counseling Plan

#### The plan will include:

- RCSD School Counseling Mission and Vision.
- Role and Responsibility of a School Counselor.
- A calendar of grade specific activities and duties aligned with ASCA.

\*This is a living document and can be modified throughout the year to fit the needs of students.

## Benefit of RCSD Comprehensive School Counselor Plan: Students

- Prepares students for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century by acquiring knowledge and skills in academic, career and personal/social development.
- Connects the educational program to future success.
- Facilitates career exploration and development.
- Develops decision making and problem solving.
- Assists in acquiring knowledge of self and others

- Assist in developing effective interpersonal relationship skills.
- Broadens knowledge of our changing world.
- Guarantees school counseling serves to every student.
- Increases the opportunity for counselorstudent interaction
- Encourages facilitative, cooperative peer interaction.
- Fosters resiliency factors for students.

## Benefits of RCSD Comprehensive School Counseling Plan: Parents

- Prepares their children for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century through academic, career and personal/social development.
- Works collaboratively and supports parents with advocating for their child's academic, career and personal/social development.
- Develops a systematic approach for their child's long-range planning and learning.
- Increases opportunities for parent/school interaction.
- Enables parents to access school and community resources.
- Work as partners in their child's education.

# Benefits of RCSD Comprehensive School Counseling Plan: Teachers

- Provides an interdisciplinary team effort to address student needs and educational goals.
- Provides skill development for teachers in classroom management, teaching effectiveness, and effective education.
- Provides consultant to assist teachers in their guidance and advisement role.
- Positively impacts school climate and the learning community.

- Supports classroom Instruction.
- Encourages positive, calendared activities and supportive working relationships.
- Promotes a team effort to address developmental skills and core competencies.
- Increases teacher associability to the classroom presenter and resource person.

# Benefits of RCSD Comprehensive School Counseling Plan: Administrators

- Integrates school counseling with the academic mission of the school.
- Provides a program structure with specific content.
- Assists administration to use school counselors effectively to enhance learning and development for all students.
- Provides a means of evaluating the effectiveness of the school counseling program.
- Demonstrates school counseling accountability.
- Enhances community image of the school counseling program.

## Benefits of RCSD Comprehensive School Counseling Plan: Student Support Personnel

- Provides School Psychologists, Social Workers and other professional student services personnel with a clearly defined role of the School Counselor.
- Clarifies areas of overlapping responsibilities.

Fosters a team approach to enhance cooperation.

# Benefits of RCSD Comprehensive School Counseling Plan: Community

- Provides an increased opportunity for collaboration and participation of community members with the school program.
- Creates community awareness and visibility of the school counseling program.
- Connects the community to the needs of the school and the school to the needs of the community.
- Enhances economic development through quality preparation of the students for the world of work.

### Questions, Comments & Suggestions

Please visit our School Counseling webpage for more information and insight.

https://www.rcsdk12.org/Domain/74