

Parent's Breakfast Club Meeting  
1/23/08

Present: John Duskoch, Julie Waterman, Rebecca Parker, Allison Joseph, John McLean, Sue Goss, Susan Klooster

Overview of the Middle School Counselor's Job: School counselors help foster students' self-determination and independence to help them develop academic, career, and personal/social goals. This is accomplished through collaboration, consultation, and counseling.

Confidentiality/Professional Disclosure Statement

Academic Concerns:

1. Staffings
2. Parental and/or student consults

Career Counseling: All grade levels

1. Career Cruising
2. EDPs
3. Learning style assessments

Personal/Social Concerns:

1. Anger Management
2. Grief
3. Family issues
4. Loss
5. Friendship issues
6. Conflict Resolution

Testing:

1. Meap Test Building Coordinator
2. NWEA Test Coordinator
3. NAEP Test Coordinator (when selected by the state—last year)

Needs Assessments: to get the pulse of students, parents, community to help determine what services need to be offered. We will be administering the MI-Phy assessment to 7<sup>th</sup> graders next month.

Classroom lessons:

1. Human Growth and Development (all grades)
2. Anger Management
3. Bullying
4. Career Lessons
5. Other topics as needed/requested by teachers

Career Pathways Luncheons

1. Working on getting funding for this program to continue

#### Groups:

1. Builder's Club
2. Lunch Clubs (Boys and Girls – 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade)
3. Family Group
4. Anger Management
5. 8 to 5 Mentoring
6. High School Mentors—coordinate students in this building

Adventure Education in collaboration with classroom teachers and Camp Daggett.

#### Individual Counseling:

1. Academic help
2. Organizational help
3. Self-esteem
4. Depression (mild, otherwise refer out)

#### Various committees:

1. District Sex Ed committee – Co-Chair
2. Middle School Homework committee

#### Agencies we work with:

1. Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District
  - a. Social Workers
  - b. School Psychologists
  - c. Teacher Consultants
2. Family/Student Counselors outside of school-The school counselor may collaborate with these professionals to help students be more successful in school.
3. Churches and community support groups to help families pay bills and get food
4. Charlevoix Community Foundation – resource for money for medical, dental, and vision for students

AT-RISK Coordinator: Cindy Whitley

Helps students to achieve success in school by doing the following:

Tutoring students before school, during school, lunchtime  
Helping students with organization skills

This position is vital in the middle school. Not only are we dealing with students who are changing faster than adults can keep up with them, but they can't keep up with themselves half the time. Cindy offers a quiet, gentle touch. She is a great listener, but also a strong motivator. She may deal with occasional low level discipline issues, but her main focus is academic success for students who struggle to complete homework or need a little extra help at school to understand a lesson. On average Cindy may have 5 kids or more per hour that she is working with. She also oversees lunch academic work time where she may have 25-30 students working on assignments. Under her watch, students are asked to call home when homework is not completed to inform their parents that they will have homework that night, etc.

With ever increasing single-parent homes, the extra help offered by the At-Risk coordinator can often make the difference between failure and success in school for many of our students. She may assess students and realize they need to be referred to Mr. Haske or the school counselor depending on the situation.

Thank you for caring about your student's education and taking the time to come to meetings like this. Your input is vital to the success of your student.