Making a Difference.....

The mission of the Richmond Public Schools comprehensive school counseling program is to prepare culturally competent, ethical, and skilled school counseling professionals to meet the growing needs of students. The competency-based program prepares professional school counselors to deliver comprehensive programs that promote success for all students in the areas of academic, career, and college readiness and social-emotional development. Through advocacy, collaboration and teamwork, individual and group counseling, use of data and technology, school counselors will be prepared to support, promote, and enhance student achievement as agents of change and leaders.

Counseling

Academic, career and social-emotional development goals focus on self-understanding, interpersonal skills, decision-making, occupational information, education and training, economic awareness, and employability. Student achievement of these is a total school and community responsibility involving counselors, teachers, administrators, and support personnel using related community resources.

School counseling involves individual and group contacts over a period of time. The counselor helps students develop realistic concepts of themselves, and become aware. A student will meet with the counselor when:

- He/she requests counseling;
- Parents, teachers, administrators, and other school staff refer the student; and
- The counselor initiates contact

Delivery System

School Core Curriculum

- Classroom Instruction
- Interdisciplinary Curriculum
- Group Activities
- Parent Workshops and Instruction



Individual Student Planning

- Individual or Small Group Appraisal
- Individual or Small Group Advisement

Responsive Services

- Consultation
- Individual and Small Group Counseling
- Crisis Counseling/Response
- Peer Facilitation

Indirect Student Services

- Referrals
- Consultation
- Collaboration

Limits for Student Participation

Parents have the option to withdraw their child or children from all or any portion of the guidance and counseling program by directing their opt-out request in writing to the school principal or counselor.

The opt-out provision excludes short-duration personal/social counseling which is needed to maintain order, discipline, or a productive learning environment or to assess instances of suspected child abuse and/or neglect.

Written parental consent will be required before students participate in a planned program of group counseling or individual counseling that is conducted on a continuing basis.

Procedures for Materials Review

Materials used in the School Counseling Program shall be made available for parent review and comment by making arrangements with the school counselor.

Maintenance of Personal/Social Counseling Information and Records Information and records of personal/social counseling will be kept confidential and separate from a student's educational records and not disclosed to third parties without prior parental consent or as otherwise provided by law.

Please read the letter below. Sign and return it to your child's school ONLY if you wish to exclude your child from certain aspects of the school guidance and counseling program.

School Counseling Program Opt-Out Form

Dear Parent/Guardian,

School counselors are vital members of the education team and maximize student success. School counselors are certified/licensed educators who improve student success for ALL students by implementing a comprehensive school counseling program. School Counselors help all students apply academic achievement strategies, manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills, and plan for post-secondary options; ensuring that today's students become the productive, well-adjusted adults of tomorrow.

Please use this link if you would like your child to opt-out of counseling services.

*Parental Permission forms for group or individual counseling to be conducted on a continuing basis will be sent home via the student.

RPS RICHMOND PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Making a Difference

"One Student at a Time"

RPS RICHMOND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Resilience. Pride. Success.