SUPPORTING ALL NEW JERSEY STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

School counselors are professional student advocates who promote equity and access to a rigorous education for every student and who work to prevent and remove barriers to learning. They are leaders in the school system and vital members of the educational team. School counselors provide a comprehensive program supporting academic achievement, social-emotional development, and college and career readiness for ALL students. Through prevention and intervention services and activities school counselors develop safe and supportive school climates. School counselors are bridge builders and collaborate with families, teachers, administrators, and the community to help students reach their post-secondary goals and to prepare them as meaningful and productive contributors to society.

WHAT DO SCHOOL COUNSELORS DO?

School counseling professionals have specialty training in education and mental health. They focus on the whole child through a comprehensive program that meets the needs of all students. School counselors use a Multi-Tiered System of Supports to provide universal, supplemental, and intensified instruction and intervention to meet the academic, career, social/emotional, and mental health needs of all students.

SCHOOL COUNSELORS DELIVER DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE, SCHOOL-WIDE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION STRATEGIES, SUCH AS:

- Teaching classroom lessons
- Facilitating small group interventions
- Providing one-on-one, short-term counseling
- Collaborating with teachers, administrators, and families to support student success
- Providing consultation, training, and staff development to teachers and parents
- Establishing safe learning environments

SCHOOL COUNSELORS DEVELOP, PLAN, IMPLEMENT, AND EVALUATE COMPREHENSIVE, DATA-DRIVEN SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE AND ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS BY:

- Identifying gaps in achievement, opportunity, and attainment
- Advocating for rigorous coursework and higher education for underrepresented groups
- Promoting equity and access to rigorous standards-based curriculum, academic courses and learning paths for college and career for all students
- Increasing promotion & graduation rates
- Reducing chronic absenteeism
- Promoting school policies leading to equitable treatment of all students

WHERE DO SCHOOL COUNSELORS WORK?

School counselors are employed in public and private school systems, supporting students from Pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. School counselors are also employed in district supervisory positions and school counselor education positions.

ASK A SCHOOL COUNSELOR:

For more information on School Counseling, contact your school counselor or the New Jersey School Counselor Association at www.njsca.org. For valuable resources visit the COVID19 resources website at www.njsca.org/njsca-covid.