

Harford County Public Schools

Meeting the Code of Maryland Regulations for School Guidance Programs and the Maryland State Department Voluntary State Standards for Elementary Career Development



The Comprehensive School Counseling Program is a developmental, sequential, and continuous program of counseling, consulting, appraisal, information, and placement services for all students from prekindergarten through Grade 5 and beyond. The program is an integral part of the total elementary educational experience and seeks to focus attention on individual students as they strive to make choices based on realistic concepts of themselves and the world in which they live. Inherent in the program is the promotion of the worth and dignity of all students and the belief that they have unique interests, needs, abilities, and aptitudes, as well as the capacity for growth and change.

Jacqueline C. Haas, Ed.D.,

Superintendent

The elementary grades are a time when students develop attitudes concerning school, self, peers, and adults, as well as decision-making, communication, life training skills, and character values. Standards for the developmentally-based Comprehensive School Counseling Program for Harford County Public Schools encompass the following three domains intended to promote and enhance student learning:

1. **Academic Development** Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge and skills that contribute to effective learning, and complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial options.



2. **Career Development** Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to a knowledge of self. Through the program, students will also develop competence in the decision-making process.



3. **Personal/Social Development** Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge, interpersonal, and safety skills to help them understand and respect themselves and others.



Sample Student Learning Outcomes:

Prekindergarten – Grade Two

- Understand the importance of learning and following school and classroom rules
- Acquire self knowledge by examining likes and dislikes, strengths, and talents
- Develop an awareness of the decision-making process
- Demonstrate ways to make and keep friends and to work cooperatively with a team
- Recognize, accept, respect, and appreciate individual differences
- Describe how behavior influences the feelings and actions of others



Grade Three – Grade Five

- Identify and use effective study skills and information seeking habits that promote educational achievement
- Relate the decision-making process to consequences
- Understand that effective planning facilitates the achievement of personal success
- Relate personal hobbies, leisure activities, and academic abilities to future career choices
- Demonstrate and evaluate how effective communication and positive social skills contribute to group interactions
- Demonstrate healthy ways of dealing with conflicts, stress, and emotions in self and others

Elementary students in Pre-kindergarten through Grade Five will meet Program Standards in Academic, Career, or Personal/Social Development through school-wide programming and activities, direct classroom instruction, small group or individual pull-out sessions, or cross disciplinary lessons. Professional school counselors are responsible for the organization, implementation, and coordination of the Program.



The comprehensive School Counseling Program for Harford County Public Schools follows the Code of Maryland Regulations for School Guidance Programs, the Maryland State Department Voluntary State Standards for Career Development, and the American School Counseling Association National Standards.



Questions regarding the comprehensive School Counseling Program may be directed to the Supervisor of School Counseling at 410-588-5251.