

## **School Counseling and Guidance Program**

The district's school counseling and guidance program is an essential and integral part of the district's total educational program. It exists to assist all students in acquiring the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to become effective students, reasonable citizens, productive workers and lifelong learners. To do this, the licensed professional school counselors in each building will develop and/or delivery guidance curriculum, individual educational planning, and services responsive to individual needs that are developmentally appropriate. The district school counseling program is based on the Oregon Department of Education's *Framework for Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs*.

School counselors demonstrate respect for each individual's dignity and worth, with a focus on equitable outcomes. School counselors encourage each student to develop individual responsibility and decision-making skills. School counselors coordinate the school guidance program and involve all staff members in designing and implementing plans to meet four major goals.

1. Academic Development (Learning to Learn) – Students will develop skills, knowledge and attitude that prepare them to participate fully in the formal school curriculum, achieve high academic standards and be lifelong learners. Students will develop an education plan to meet these goals.
2. Personal and Social Development (Learning to Live) – Students will develop appropriate interpersonal and communication skills for a variety of social and work settings. Students will develop self-advocacy and decision-making skills that prepare them to build, maintain and nurture relationships with others and to survive and prosper in an increasingly complex world.
3. Career Development (Learning to Work) – Students will explore college and career options consistent with their interests, abilities and values. Students will learn skills that prepare them to plan their educational and career paths through personal transitions and economic change.
4. Community Involvement (Learning to Contribute) – Students will develop skills, knowledge and attitudes that prepare them to become involved members of the community.

School counselors of students in grades 7-12 will facilitate the development and annual review an educational plan which creates education, career and life goals, identifies learning goals and activities.

Within the framework of the counseling and guidance goals, specific student and curricular objectives will be developed.

Within the areas of guidance and counseling responsibility, the counselor enters into professional relationships with three segments of the school community: students; school personnel; and parents. Consistent with individual rights and the school counselor's obligations as a professional, the counseling

relationship and resulting information is, in most instances, protected as privileged communications by Oregon law. When appropriate, school counselors will be responsible for explaining the ramifications of confidentiality to students.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 40.245](#)

[ORS 326.565](#)

[ORS 326.575](#)

[ORS 336.187](#)

[OAR 581-021-0046\(7\)](#)

[OAR 581-022-0405](#)

[OAR 581-022-0606](#)

[OAR 581-022-0610](#)

[OAR 581-022-1020](#)

[OAR 581-022-1510](#)

[OAR 581-022-1512](#)

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (2011); Family Educational Rights and Privacy, 34 C.F.R. Part 99 (2011).

Protection of Pupil Rights, 20 U.S.C. § 1232h (2006); Student Rights in Research, Experimental Programs and Testing, 34 C.F.R. Part 98 (2006).