

GUIDANCE PROGRAM

The Board views guidance as helping students understand themselves relative to their abilities, aptitudes, interests, attitudes, strengths and limitations. This process is meant to assist students and their families in the development of their potential and their decisions relating to personal, educational and vocational matters.

Guidance is based upon these broad fundamental principles.

1. Individuals are different from one another in their capabilities, aptitudes, interests, needs, goals, desires and values.
2. Conditions are improvable. Equality of educational opportunity benefits the individual and society.
3. Guidance is a continual and developmental process. Every experience of the individual influences him/her in some way.
4. Guidance does not propose to program an individual's course of action but rather tries to assist the individual in arriving at his/her own satisfactory solutions.
5. Guidance should assist the individual to understand his/her circumstances and opportunities and to plan his/her life in a satisfactory manner to serve himself/herself as well as society.

Guidance services may include a wide variety of programs/assessments and interpretation of results to students, parents and staff . These services assist students in developing good study habits and personal guidance which is in keeping with the principles of human dignity and equality.

A written guidance document is developed to provide systematic aid to students in kindergarten through 12th grade regarding educational, career, civic, personal and social concerns including the harmful effects of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. This plan provides for appraisal of students' academic abilities, a variety of counseling opportunities and approaches, educational and career planning and, when necessary, appropriate referral. The document is evaluated and submitted to the Board for adoption every three years.

The guidance department is responsible for assisting with implementation of the assessment dimension of the standards-based educational program. The guidance staff further assists the instructional staff and administration in developing and implementing intervention programs to assist students to realize academic improvement.

Counseling services are provided by certificated school counselors.

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