

FOUNDATION

SCHOOL COUNSELOR BELIEFS

MCPS school counselors believe:

1. All students will succeed
2. All students have dignity, worth, unique characteristics, and potential
3. All students are active participants in achieving their goals
4. All students learn best when they are meaningfully engaged in their learning

We believe the school counseling program:

1. Is available to and empowers all students
2. Is comprehensive, developmental, and central to the school and district mission
3. Is proactive in supporting all students
4. Is available to families, staff, and community in support of all students

And that all school counselors advocate for students by:

1. Facilitating resiliency and belonging through listening and responding to student needs and interests
2. Promoting a positive, safe, and healthy school culture
3. Having unique access, opportunity, and responsibility to influence students and the school environment
4. Possessing expertise, specialized training, and licensure in school counseling
5. Engaging in ongoing professional learning
6. Abiding by ASCA ethical standards

SCHOOL COUNSELOR PHILOSOPHY

The Missoula County Public Schools (MCPS) Pre-K—12 comprehensive counseling program is a dynamic model proactive in nature yet responsive to the needs of each school. All students have access to a full-time, state certified, masters degree level school counselor to deliver the school counseling curriculum. This curriculum is developmental, sequential, preventative, data driven and an integral component of the MCPS 21st Century education model. In our practice, we promote the foundation for healthy well-being through the delivery of academic, career, and personal/social life skills. We value the uniqueness of each student as they become lifelong learners. We actively engage in professional learning opportunities essential to maintaining a high quality school counseling program. Professional school counselors abide by the American School Counseling Association's (ASCA) rigorous ethical standards.

SCHOOL COUNSELOR MISSION

Missoula County Public Schools Professional School Counselors empower all students, regardless of difference or circumstance, to maximize their potential as lifelong learners and productive members of our local and global community.