

The Counselor's Role



Advocate for EVERY Student!

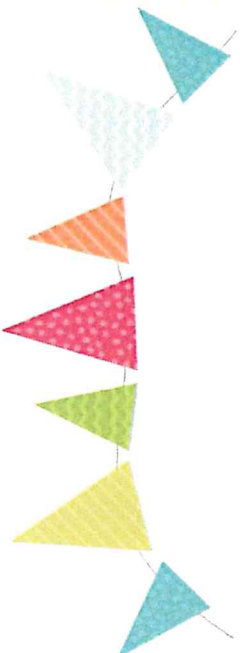
My primary role as Overpark's School Counselor is to serve as an advocate for every student. I absolutely LOVE our students and truly feel they are each so unique and special! I speak to them and offer encouragement on embracing their inner-AWESOME and choosing every day to be respectful, responsible and ready to learn.

Family Support and Collaboration

When a child's family and school work together, the students are more likely to reach their potential and achieve success. I am available to collaborate with families on ways to become more active in their child's education, how to help with homework and assignments, as well as offer various resources to address a specific goal or need.

Support the School and Staff

As counselor, I work with our teachers and support staff on student and program needs, and collaborate to develop goals for students as well as the counseling program. I also work with our school and staff on our Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) that acknowledges students in a positive manner throughout the school.



Confidentiality Statement

"Anything that you say in here, stays in here!

Unless...

- You want to hurt yourself
- You want to hurt someone else
- Someone is hurting you
- You give me permission to tell someone"

It is my ethical obligation to maintain student confidentiality by not disclosing any information provided to me during sessions unless the child is in danger of being hurt or hurting others.

How To Reach Me



Parents/Guardians can reach me by scheduling a meeting at the school, or by phone or email.

Email: Stacey.conklin@dcsms.org

Phone: (662) 890-8745 Ext. 1204

Students can reach me any time during the school day by visiting my office or leaving me a referral located outside of my door.

Counseling Services



Each month, I will meet with every class for 40 - 45 minutes to spend time with the students and address specific needs through guidance lessons. These needs are identified through a needs assessment that is given to students and teachers at the beginning of the school year.

Some examples of topics covered are: Setting goals for ourselves, Core Character Values, and how to be a good friend.

Individual and Small Group Counseling

Students can meet with me individually to address specific needs, or in a small group setting. Individual sessions vary in topics, however one thing is consistent - *confidentiality!* Small group counseling sessions vary in number and in topics. These sessions allow me to work together with a group of students and address similar needs. These groups will most often meet for a number of sessions spread across several weeks, based on student's needs.

Some examples of small group/individual counseling topics are: *Self-esteem, anxiety, divorce, grief, social skills, respect, etc.*