

## **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING**

The superintendent shall develop a comprehensive program of guidance and counseling services for the district in accordance with any applicable requirements of Alaska statutes, regulations of the Department of Education, and District policy. Such a program shall be subject to approval of the board.

The District's counseling program will recognize that school counseling is integral to the District's total education program; it is developmental by design and includes sequential activities organized by certified counseling staff; that program implementation requires the support of all district staff, students, parents, and the community.

Our school-counseling program will include:

1. Personal and Career Development Curriculum – selected activities from the “Alaska School Counseling Program.”
2. Individual Student Planning – assisting students with their planning for the future, through appraisal, advisement, and program placement.
3. Responsive Services – individual and group counseling, crisis counseling, referral, and consultation concerning immediate needs of students.
4. System Support – professional development, communications with community and staff, program planning and management, research, and parent/community outreach.

The counseling program will address the needs of all students by helping them:

1. Acquire knowledge of self and relate effectively to others.
2. Develop competencies in career/vocational planning and exploration.
3. Achieve educational success by pursuing course work that contributes to achieving personal educations/career goals.

### **Instruction**

### **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES**

The School Board shall provide a counseling program to enhance academic achievement and emotional security. The Board recognizes that some students are in greater need of guidance than others. The counseling program shall serve students' diverse needs and shall encourage productive learning experiences.

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## GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

Counselors shall make every effort to respect student confidentially as appropriate and shall consult with the Superintendent, Principal or designee whenever unsure of how to respond to a student's personal problem. Parental consultation and consent for counseling shall be obtained as appropriate.

Academic counseling shall help students establish immediate and long-range educational plans consistent with their individual needs, abilities, interests and aptitudes without regard to sex. Insofar as possible, parents/guardians shall be included when making these plans, and student placement shall not be limited by past grades and test scores. Minority, disadvantaged, low-income and other students shall not be automatically or systematically channeled into vocational or special education.

Note: Under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, districts receiving federal funds must provide military recruiters the same access to students as is provided generally to post-secondary educational institutions and prospective employers.

Counseling staff shall help secondary students to plan for the future, become aware of their career potential, understand the business world and develop realistic perceptions of work. Academic planning for higher educations shall include information about courses needed for admission to colleges and universities, standardized admission tests, financial aid, and scholarships. Post-secondary institutions, prospective employers, and military recruiters may be granted access to students as deemed appropriate by counseling staff and the building administrator.

As required by law, the Superintendent or designee shall provide biennial training for guidance and counseling staff in recognizing and overcoming sex bias.

*Legal Reference:*

*Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 9528, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110)*

ALASKA STATUTES

*14.18.030 Discrimination in counseling and guidance services prohibited*

*14.18.050 Discrimination in course offerings prohibited*

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

*4 AAC 06.530 Guidance and counseling services*

*4 AAC 51.330 Vocational guidance and placement*

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