

The School Counselor and Character Education



The school counselor teaches skills in the 5 MCPS Student Counseling Standards (PDF):
Academic
Development, Personal Development, Inter-personal Development, Career Development, and Healthy Development.

In alignment with these MCPS Student Counseling Standards, the Stonegate counselor will teach specifically to the Stonegate Core Values: Responsibility, Respect, Collaboration and Commitment.

Counseling Program Rationale

By aligning a counseling program with Stonegate's mission, vision, and School Improvement Plan (S.I.P.), professional school counselors:

- Partner as leaders in systematic change
- Ensure equity and success
- Promote academic, career, personal, interpersonal and healthy development for every student

(ASCA)



School-Wide Counselor Initiated Programs

THE CORE VALUES AT STONEGATE ARE:



RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

COLLABORATION

COMMITMENT



PEACE PROGRAM

A Peace Day takes place when all Stonegate Elementary Students follow all Core Values: Responsibility, Respect, Collaboration, and Commitment.

Working as a team, the goal is for students to avoid being referred to the office due to inappropriate behavior.

Counseling At Stonegate Elementary School

Counseling Mission

Professional school counselors are leaders who advocate, collaborate, and facilitate individual and system change to ensure every student has the knowledge and skills necessary for academic success and personal growth.

Counseling Vision

As professional school counselors we envision schools which provide equitable access to opportunities and supports and which empower students to embrace their full potential and to strive to achieve their **personal and academic aspirations.**

What is The Role of the Counselor at Stonegate?

- The School Counselor works with students individually to help them solve difficult situations.
- The School Counselor works with students in small groups on such topics as friendship, self-esteem, study skills, anger management, separation/divorce, stress, etc.
- The School Counselor works with students in the classroom focusing on the Core Values of Stonegate, as well as teacher requests.
- The School Counselor serves as a resource to assist all stake-holders during transitional events in their life.
- The school counselor serves as an advocate, consultant, facilitator, team-member, and supporter.



Stonegate Students Talk to the Counselor When...

- ...I tell my teacher I want to see the counselor.
- ...I complete the “Catch the Counselor” Communication form with my teacher’s permission and drop it off in the sand bucket outside the counselor’s room.
- ...my parent(s)/guardian(s) request it.
- ...my teacher(s) recommends me.
- ...my principal or assistant principal suggest that I see the counselor.
- ...Ms. Berning invites me to join her.


The Counselor Talks to Par-



ents & Teachers About...

- ...how their child is doing with his/her school work.
- ...how their child is doing with his/her classmates.
- ...how special each child is.

Meet the Counselor at Stonegate...

Prior to this great opportunity, I was a  third grade teacher at Fields Road Elementary School in MCPS. During my time as a teacher, I was able to work towards achieving my Masters degree in Counseling at Johns Hopkins University. In addition, I have obtained my Post-Masters in Counseling At-risk Youth. I am certified as a Pupil Personnel Worker (PPW), a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) and a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC). I earned my undergraduate degree in elementary and middle school education at the University of Maryland, College Park. I am also a veteran student of Montgomery County, and have truly enjoyed my years in such a rigorous and dedicated school-system.

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