Why is a counselor important?

School Counselors have a unique role! Dr. Starr, the MCPS Superintendent, recognizes the value of developing strong, academically-minded students, along with the essential need for social-emotional support. Children today face new and ever growing challenges in a globally competitive world.

It is my goal as your school counselor to help compliment the academic growth of your child with the social-emotional skills necessary to help them to be successfull

Recognition of the whole individual is gaining respect and appreciation. Have you seen the Strategic Planning Framework? This year Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is part of our School Improvement Plan (S.I.P.)

Children need our support. They need our love and attention. They need our acceptance and our guidance and supervision as they grow.

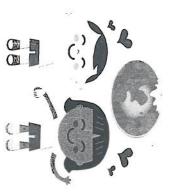
I will work with you, your child, school staff, and the community to help your child to feel good about themselves, their world, and their unique contributions.

MCPS Counseling Student Standards

The School Counselor

Information guide

- Academic Development
- Personal Development
- Interpersonal Development
- Career Development
- Healthy Development

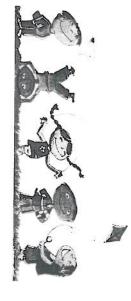


Standards are addressed through classroom guidance lessons, small group and individual activities.

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Who is your counselor?



I grew up in the area and have lived in Rockville for many years. I went to college at UMD and got my Masters in School Counseling from John's Hopkins University. I specialize in play therapy. I have been the counselor at Cannon Road ES for 17 years! I am also the team leader for our school P.B.I.S. program (Positive behavior interventions & support)

Hive with my husband, my son and my cat and dog. I have 3 (adult) children and two wonderful grandsons that both go to school in Montgomery County.

In our spare time my husband and I enjoy riding and exploring on our motorcycle! I also love the beach and taking my dog for walks along the river in the fall.

I am excited to learn more about you, your family and how I can best support you!

How do I get to talk to Mrs. Valenta?

- Write a self-referral during class (if my teacher says it is okay)
- Tell my family that I want to see her
- Go to her mailbox and write a self-referral
- My teacher may suggest that I talk to her
- The principal or assistant principal may recommend that I talk to her
- My parents may ask me to see her
- Mrs. Valenta might invite me to see her
- I might participate in a group with some other students



What does Mrs. Valenta

My job is to help support students, families, and staff members through:

- * Classroom Guidance lesons
- Individual short-term counseling
- Small Group Counseling
- Sharing of Resources/ Referrals
- Collaboration with Stakeholders (School staff, family members, mentors, outside of school professionals)
- Parent Conferences
- 504/EMT Meetings
- Creating/utilizing community partnerships
- Developing & Organizing the PBIS program
- Managing the school store (ordering and coordinating volunteers.)