

Counselor's Corner



Counselor's Message

Dear Glen Haven Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to another wonderful year at Glen Haven Elementary School. I am very excited about this school year. I want to let you know that I will do my best in offering my assistance in order to help all children succeed. My number one goal is to help your child develop knowledge and skills appropriate to their age and grade in the areas of academics, personal growth, career awareness, and interpersonal relationships.

I will be going into each classroom to do classroom guidance lessons. During these lessons, I will be focusing on a character trait each month. Lessons will incorporate basic knowledge of the trait and promote the practice of its use. Please take the opportunity to reinforce each character trait at home. Remember that you are a powerful role model for your children. In addition to classroom guidance, individual and group counseling will occur. If you have any concerns about your child please feel free to contact me at 301-649-8051 or by email Rebecca_H_Willis@mcpsmd.org.

I am excited about meeting your child and am looking forward to a wonderful counseling year.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Willis
School Counselor

Glen Haven Elementary School Overview of School Counseling Program



Classroom Guidance

As part of the school counseling program, I will provide classroom guidance for all students (Pre-K through 5th grade). Classroom guidance sessions will be held every three weeks for 30 minutes and will focus on the character trait of the month. At the end of the three week rotation the Character Counts Recognition will be held.

- September- Compassion (Counselor Introduction Activities)
- October- Responsibility (Red Ribbon Activities)
- November- Citizenship (Veteran's Day Activities)
- December- Fairness
- January- Respect (Cultural Awareness Activities)
- February- Perseverance (Test Prep Activities)
- March- Courage
- April- Self-Discipline (Career Development Activities)
- May- Honesty

Small Group Counseling

As part of the school counseling program, I will provide small group counseling for students. Topics will vary based on the needs of the students at the different grade levels. Groups will generally meet once a week for 30 minute sessions during a student's lunch or recess. Possible topics for group include:

- Grief and Loss- "Care Bears"
- Divorce or Separation- "Banana Splits"
- Anger Management- "Cool Cats"
- Military Outreach- "Proud Eagles"
- Social Skills- "Friends 'R Us"
- Self-esteem- "Sunshine Kids"
- Study Skills and Organization- "Showstoppers"

Individual Counseling

As part of the school counseling program, I will provide individual counseling for students. Administrators, staff, and parents can refer individuals.

Peer Mediation

This year at Glen Haven Elementary School we will begin Peer Mediation. Peer Mediation is both a program and a process where students of the same age-group facilitate resolving disputes between two people. The mediator does not judge or discipline the disputants. The mediator only facilitates the meeting and helps to come to an agreement that is comfortable for all involved. This process has been shown to improve self-esteem, listening and critical thinking skills, and school climate for learning, as well as reduced disciplinary actions. These skills learned are transferable outside of the classroom. The Peer Mediators at Glen Haven will consist of 12 5th grade students named the Glen Haven Peace Makers.

Consultation and Collaboration

As part of the school counseling program, I will provide consultation and collaboration services to the staff and parents. As a consultant and collaborator, I will...

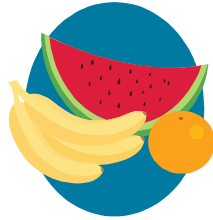
- Facilitate the Ambassador Program
- Co-Facilitate the Glen Haven Peace Makers
- Provide resources for parents
- Collaborate with teachers regarding student's behavior and help to monitor behavior management programs
- Serve as a resource for parents and staff on developmental, behavioral, and social/emotional issues of students
- Participate in the EMT, IEP, and 504 processes
- Serve on the PLC and Curriculum Teams

Military Family Life Consultant

During the school year we will have a Military Family Life Consultant work with our military parents, military students, and staff. The Military Family Life Consultant's roles include:

- Facilitating military group counseling sessions
- Facilitate deployment groups at the school
- Individual counseling with military students and/or military parents
- Observe, participate, and engage in activities with military children and youth
- Provide outreach to military parents
- Conduct trainings for staff and military parents
- Recommend referrals to military social services and other local resources as needed
- Attend field trips and other school sponsored activities

List of Glen Haven Food Programs:



SHARE Food Network:

SHARE information: <http://www.sharedc.org/about.htm>

SHARE menu: <http://www.sharedc.org/menu.htm>

SHARE schedule: <http://www.sharedc.org/schedule.htm>

Volunteering: <http://www.sharedc.org/Volunteer.htm>

Manna Food Center:

Manna Food Center information: <http://www.mannafood.org/>

Family Food Distribution: <http://www.mannafood.org/index.cfm?page=family-food-distribution>

How to Receive Food: <http://www.mannafood.org/index.cfm?page=receive-food>

Distribution Locations: <http://www.mannafood.org/index.cfm?page=food-distribution-locations-hours>

SNAP/Food Stamps: <http://www.mannafood.org/index.cfm?page=snap-food-stamps>

Volunteering: <http://www.mannafood.org/index.cfm?page=volunteer>