

POLICY JLD

Board of Education Las Cruces Public Schools

Related Entries: JLD-R
Responsible Office: Deputy Superintendent

Guidance and Counseling

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of Policy JLD is to have a comprehensive guidance and counseling program available to all students.

II. BACKGROUND

- A. Counseling and guidance services in the Las Cruces Public Schools are aligned with the American School Counselor Association’s National Model and with the New Mexico Public Education Department’s regulations for school counseling. The counseling and guidance program is preventative in design, developmental in nature, multi-culturally sensitive, responsive to student needs, and comprehensive. The school counseling and guidance program is essential in the delivery of a high quality education and significantly contributes to students’ overcoming barriers to learning and success.
- B. The counseling program promotes and enhances student success through a focus on three domains: 1) academic achievement; 2) social/emotional growth; and 3) career development. Counselors provide prevention services through guidance lessons related to the three domains, academic and career advisement services, and individual, group and crisis counseling.
- C. The counseling program ensures equity for all students, accountability for each student's success, and provides students the skills necessary to succeed in the academic environment, as well as in a complex society. Counselors also collaborate with staff, parents and community members to mobilize resources needed to support student success. Counselors support students in attaining their full potential and achieving their academic and personal aspirations.

III. POSITION

- A. In all schools:
 - 1. Counselors shall provide a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate school counseling program to all students.

2. Counselors shall provide information and support to students and families about academic programs, community supports, and other relevant information.
 3. The school counseling program is based on, and shall align with, national and state counseling standards and shall include prevention, intervention, and crisis response services.
 4. School counselors shall:
 - a. promote personal, interpersonal, health, academic, and career development for all students through proactive classroom programs and other services;
 - b. address the unique needs of individual students through intervention which are culturally appropriate;
 - c. communicate the role and goals of the school counseling program with all stakeholders, including students, parents, staff, administrators, and the community;
 - d. collect, analyze, and discuss both qualitative and quantitative data to identify and address students needs and to develop, implement, evaluate, and continuously improve the counseling program.
- B. The school counseling program shall be implemented in grades preK-12. Because the academic and developmental needs of students change as they mature, the counseling program shall addresses the unique academic and developmental needs of students at each school level in collaboration with staff, parents and community.
1. At the elementary level:
 - a. The school counseling program promotes school success by assisting students in acquiring the skills and attitudes necessary for academic achievement.
 - b. The school counsling program teaches decision making, problem solving, and resiliency skills.
 - c. School counselors foster the development of positive self-concept and interpersonal skills.
 2. At the middle school level:
 - a. The school counseling program focuses on building academic and social competence and career readiness.
 - b. School counselors coordinate, monitor, and manage the process by which students develop a rigorous, appropriate comprehensive plan

that meets high school graduation requirements and reflects post-secondary goal-setting.

3. At the secondary level:
 - a. School counselors meet with students regularly to review, guide and support them through the academic and career planning process. School counselors plan and manage the process for students reviewing and updating rigorous comprehensive plans to support students' post-secondary educational and career goals.
 - b. The school counseling program equips students to develop competence in decision-making, career planning, interpersonal relationships, personal responsibility, and other skills essential to being a productive citizen.

C. The Superintendent shall promulgate a regulation for the implementation of this policy, which will include an evaluation rubric of the key components of this Policy.

III. REVIEW

This policy shall be reviewed on an ongoing basis in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

Maria A. Flores

Board of Education, President

March 17, 2015

Date Approved

History: New Policy 01.30.2007; revised 03.17.15
Legal Reference: NMAC 6.12.6.8