



# Counseling Corner

September 2019



## DID YOU KNOW...?

All school counselors are required to complete their Masters degree as well as hundreds of hours in internships before becoming certified as a counselor? Plus 60+ credits as a professionally licensed counselor! Our staff are *highly* qualified!

## NEW COUNSELORS

Please welcome **Nanci Siegel** and **Ryan Cox** to the School Counseling Department. Nanci will be joining the Ottoson Middle School team and Ryan will be at the High School.

## POSITION PAPERS

School counselors regularly publish position statements to inform best, ethical practices across the country. Read the most recent paper on gun violence here:

[www.schoolcounselor.org/asca/media/asca/PositionStatements/PS\\_GunViolence.pdf](http://www.schoolcounselor.org/asca/media/asca/PositionStatements/PS_GunViolence.pdf)

## SEPTEMBER MONTHLY THEMES

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

National Recovery Month

Self-Improvement Month

Sexual Health Awareness Month

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

Sept. 15 – Oct. 15 Hispanic Heritage

Month



# School ~~GUIDANCE~~ COUNSELOR

[www.schoolcounselor.org](http://www.schoolcounselor.org)

## "GUIDANCE" TO "SCHOOL" COUNSELOR: THE EVOLUTION OF PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING

<https://onlinecounselingprograms.com/blog/history-of-school-counseling/> Read the whole article here!

The role of the school counselor has undergone many changes over the years. From a role with limited capacity to one whose focus extends beyond the academic realm, these changes were broad and necessary. Today, school counseling is as much about wellbeing and mental health as it is about academics and career...

School counseling is no longer a job where vocational teachers or teachers of any subject serve as suitable substitutes. It stands alone as a separate asset of education. With the growth of this career came an expansion of duties. As listed by the ASCA, school counselors encourage a variety of mindsets and behaviors from their students. They also participate in many aspects of education and personal growth including individual and group counseling, student planning, career and college preparation, character building, social skills, study skills, crisis intervention

and preventive and/or proactive program implementation. School counselors are to achieve a number of competencies too. These are knowledge, skills, attitudes, and abilities that allow them to address student, teacher, parent, and school concerns. As mentioned above, these areas focus on career, social/emotional development, and academics. School counselors must also address state and district initiatives and set standards of integrity and professionalism. As the face of their school's counseling program, counselors must be comfortable with leadership and advocacy when needed. The role of the school counselor has grown since its conception: the counselor of today is a different character. What was once a role focused on getting students out the classroom doors and into manufacturing careers, now involves so much more. School counselors focus on mental health, behavioral health, emotional health, and psychosocial wellness and development. Though a school counselor does indeed provide guidance in terms of academics and career selection, they are not limited to a guidance capacity and serve a larger purpose in the lives of their students and within the walls of their schools.

### September Dates

- 8 International Literacy Day
- 8-14 National Suicide Prevention Week
- 10 World Suicide Prevention Day
- 15-21 Child Passenger Safety Week
- 17 Constitution Day/Citizenship Day
- 18 National School Backpack Awareness Day
- 19 International Talk Like a Pirate Day
- 21 International Day of Peace
- 21 World Clean-Up Day
- 23-27 Ally Week
- 25 National Women's Health & Fitness Day

