

Counselors are essential to the school...

- Helping create a safe school environment where students can learn.
- Working with students on attendance issues.
- Coordinating referrals to outside agencies.
- Helping design interventions to enhance student success.
- Assisting students in learning how school performance relates to future opportunities.
- Providing support during personal crisis.
- Supporting students and their parents with academic planning/support.
- Encouraging life-long learning.
- Developing a comprehensive educational and career plan for each student.
- Serving on school improvement teams.

How Parents Can Contact the School Counselor

Parents can call the school counselor at any time for a phone conference or to set up a face-to-face meeting.

How Students Can See the School Counselor

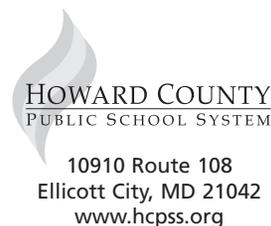
- Self-referral
- Request of a counselor
- Parent referral
- Administrative referral
- Teacher or other staff referral
- Referral by friend(s)

School Counselor Professional Training

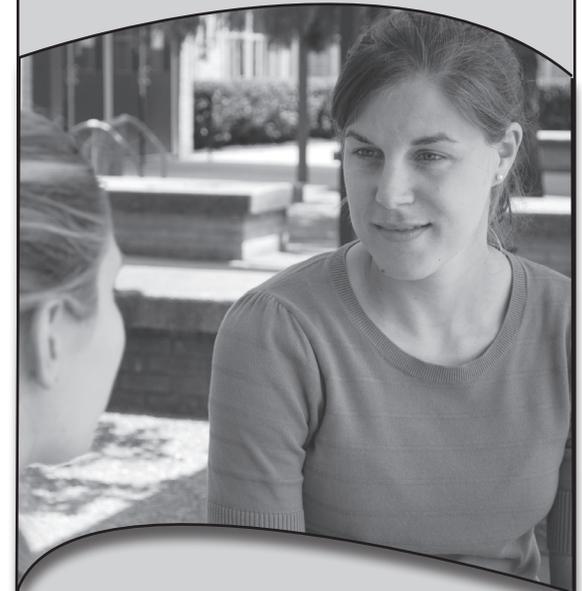
HCPSS professional school counselors have a master's degree or higher in school counseling and meet the Maryland state certification standard.

**For more information,
contact the Office
of School Counseling
410-313-6647
www.hcpss.org**

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School Counselors



HOWARD COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

School Counselors of the Howard County Public School System



School counselors provide services to students, parents, school staff and the community in the following areas:

- **School Counseling Curriculum** – This curriculum consists of lessons designed to help students gain the knowledge and skills appropriate for their developmental level. The service provided will help students:
 - Demonstrate personal and academic growth.
 - Make appropriate educational and career decisions.
 - Have productive interactions with others.
- **Responsive Services** – Responsive services are preventative and/or intervention activities meeting students' immediate and future needs. These needs may be addressed in any of the following activities:
 - Individual or group counseling.
 - Consultation with parents, teachers and other educators.
 - Referrals to other school support services or community resources.

It is through a comprehensive developmental school counseling program that counselors work as a team member with school staff, parents, and the community to create a caring, supportive atmosphere in which students can achieve academic success.



School Counselors can help in many situations...

"My parents are getting a divorce. I don't know what's going to happen."

"I'm new here and I'm having trouble making friends."

"My child scores high on standardized tests but hardly makes passing grades in school."

"My child is telling me that there is no homework, but I found out that the homework is not getting done."

"The student hasn't been acting like himself lately. He seems to be preoccupied with something."

"The student has been absent from school for many school days. She is now having difficulty in school."

Why School Counselors?

Today's young people are living in an exciting time, with an increasingly diverse and mobile society, new technologies, and expanding opportunities. To help ensure that they are prepared to become the next generation of parents, workers, leaders and citizens, students need support, guidance and opportunities during their school years.