

POLICY

— East Rutherford Board of Education

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2411. GUIDANCE COUNSELING

The Board recognizes that guidance and counseling programs are collaborative efforts benefiting students, parents, teachers, administrators and the overall community. School counseling programs should be an integral part of a student's daily educational environment. In envisioning a guidance and counseling program, the Board supports the goal of helping all students acquire the personal/social, academic and career skills necessary to reach their fullest potential, to become effective learners, responsible citizens and productive, satisfied workers in ever-changing world.

The Board of Education requires that a planned program of guidance and counseling be an integral part of the educational program aimed at to assisting pupils with their academic, career and personal/social development and ability to make and implement informed educational and occupational choices.

A program of guidance and counseling, including developmental career guidance and exploration, shall be offered to all pupils in this school district and shall be conducted under the leadership of certified as guidance personnel.

Purpose

The Superintendent is directed to implement a guidance program that carries out the purposes of this policy and:

1. Involves teaching staff members at all appropriate levels;
2. Honors the individuality of each pupil;
3. Is integrated with the total educational program;
4. Is coordinated with available resources of the community;
5. Provides for cooperation of school staff with parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and shares parents' or legal guardians' concern for the development of their children;

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6. Provides for the means of sharing information among appropriate staff members in the pupil's interest;
7. Is available equitably to all pupils and prohibits biased counseling and the use of materials that discriminate among pupils on the basis of their race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability; and
8. Establishes a referral system that utilizes all the aid the schools and community offer, guards the privacy of the pupil, and monitors the efficacy of such referrals.

Program

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop and maintain a school guidance and counseling program that provides the following:

1. A School Guidance Curriculum – This curriculum shall consist of structured lessons designed to help students achieve the desired competencies and to provide all students with the knowledge and skills appropriate to their developmental level. The school guidance curriculum shall be delivered throughout the school's overall curriculum and shall be systematically presented by certified counselors in collaboration with other professional staff.
2. Individual Student Planning – Coordinate ongoing systemic activities designed to help students establish personal goals and develop future plans.
3. Responsive services – Provide prevention and/or intervention activities meeting a student's immediate and future needs. These needs can be necessitated by events and conditions in a student's life and may require any of the following:
 - a. individual or group guidance and/or counseling;
 - b. consultation with parents/guardians, teachers and other educators;

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- c. referrals to other school support services or community resources;
- d. peer counseling; and,
- e. information.

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7; 6A:8-3.2; 6A:19-1.2

American School Counseling Association, *National Model*, 2008

New Jersey School Counselor Association, *Framework for Developing Comprehensive School Counseling Program*, 2005

Adopted: 25 June 2000
Revised: 26 February 2009
