

Notification of Arlington ISD's Comprehensive School Counseling Programs

In accordance with Texas Education Code § 33.002, Arlington ISD is providing this notification to ensure that parents are informed about the school counseling services available to their students. These services are designed to support students' academic, career, personal, and social development through a comprehensive school counseling program.

Our goal as a district is to be a supportive partner in providing effective academic instruction while also promoting the overall well-being of our students, so they can remain focused and successful in the classroom.

School counselors and other campus mental health professionals are always expected to encourage students to communicate with their parents about any concerns related to their well-being. At the same time, school counselors are highly trained professionals equipped to support students in navigating personal, emotional, and social challenges that may impact their learning during the school-day. Our schools offer a variety of services to support students' well-being. This notice is meant to inform you of services offered, not necessarily to indicate any of these services will be provided to your child.

Comprehensive school counseling supports offered on your child's campus consist of the following:

Guidance Curriculum

Guidance lessons are classroom instruction available to all students at all grade levels. All guidance lessons are selected from the district-approved list, and topics are aligned with the character traits listed below. Texas Education Code 29.906 required the State Board of Education (SBOE) and Texas Education Agency (TEA) to establish Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for positive character traits and personal skills. This became effective August 1, 2021 in the Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 120:

- Courage
- Trustworthiness, including honesty, reliability, punctuality, and loyalty
- Integrity
- Respect and courtesy
- Responsibility, including accountability, diligence, perseverance, self-management skills, and self-control
- Fairness, including justice and freedom from prejudice
- Caring, including kindness, empathy, compassion, consideration, patience, generosity, charity, and interpersonal skills
- Good citizenship, including patriotism, concern for the common good and the community, responsible decision-making skills, and respect for authority and the law

- School pride
- Gratitude

Responsive Services

Responsive Services provide students help with immediate needs that may interfere with students' learning. These services may include:

- Individual Counseling
- Crisis Counseling
- Small Groups
- Teachers and other employees periodically inquiring about a child's well-being, (e.g., asking how a student is feeling)
- Conflict Resolution & Mediation
- Behavioral Interventions
- Check-Ins
- Skill Building activities

Individual Planning

Individual planning involves helping students plan, monitor, and manage their individual academic, college/career, personal, and social development. These services may include:

Academic Development

- Reviewing student transcripts, grades, and progress toward graduation
- Creating and monitoring four-year graduation plans
- Course selection and scheduling guidance
- Setting academic improvement goals
- Organizing study skills and time management planning sessions

Career Development

- Career interest inventories and assessments
- Career exploration
- Career Days
- College Fairs
- Developing career portfolios or resumes
- Post-secondary planning & preparation (college, trade school, military, workforce)

Personal/Social Development

- Goal-setting for personal growth and behavior
- Transition Planning from one grade level to another
- Leadership development
- Reviewing behavior contracts or improvement plans

System Support

System Support provides coordinated resources and activities on campuses that indirectly support students academic and social development. These activities include Red Ribbon Week and Kindness Week activities.

Psychological Questionnaires & Evaluations

In certain circumstances, when a student is in crisis and exhibiting behaviors that are interfering with the safety of self or others, school counselors may administer diagnostic tools to help determine a student's wellbeing. Any type of psychological questionnaire and evaluation requires prior consent before being administered to students. Parents are always informed when/if these types of situations arise involving their child. A copy of the questionnaire/evaluation will be provided to you.

Why are You Receiving this Notice

We are notifying you of your right to decline any of these services. We will notify you prior to initiating any new comprehensive guidance services. If you choose to decline one or more services described in this notification, please submit your request in writing to your campus school counselor.

Ouestions

If you have any questions, please contact the principal or school counselor at your child's campus. You may also reach out to the district's Guidance & Counseling Department for further assistance in understanding this notice.

Arlington Independent School District

<u>Guidance & Counseling Department</u>

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