

# COUNSELOR CHRONICLES

February 2010

Counselor Chronicles

## NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

FEBRUARY 1 - 5, 2010

"Celebrate School Counseling"

### Inside this issue:

Celebrate School Counseling	1
New Counselors	1
New Programs and Initiatives	2
Student Program Highlights	3
Professionals in Action	3
Professionals in Action	4
Character Education	4

National School Counseling Week 2010, "Celebrate School Counseling," will be celebrated from Feb. 1-5, 2010, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within U.S. school systems. National School Counseling Week, sponsored by American School Counseling Association (ASCA), highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

School counselors implement a comprehensive program to help students focus on academic, personal/social, and career development so they can achieve success in school and are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society.

We are preparing our students today for the "global" society of tomorrow. "All children should be accepted and be provided with equal opportunity to help realize their potential." \* As counselors, we do just this!

\* Catching Up or Leading the Way: American Education in the Age of Globalization, by Yong Zhao

### *School Counseling Program*

#### *Components*

- Curriculum and Lessons
- Individual Student Planning
- Responsive Services
- System-Wide Support

#### *Goals*

- Personal / Academic Development
- Career and Decision-Making Skills
- Interpersonal Skills

## Welcome New School Counseling Staff

We welcome the following counselors to Carroll County Public Schools to be among the best school counseling professionals in the State of Maryland.

<u>Caitlin Butler</u>	West Middle School
<u>Christopher Driscoll</u>	Mt. Airy Middle School
<u>Robbie Green</u>	Robert Moton Elementary School, Behavior Support Specialist
<u>Rachel Hiner</u>	New Windsor Middle/ Westminster High School
<u>Stephany Seargeant</u>	South Carroll High School
<u>Noel Whitfield</u>	New Windsor Middle School



## New Programs and Initiatives

### Carroll County is Ready!



“82% of deployed soldiers have school-aged children.”

Maryland, along with 25 other states, has joined the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children to ensure that children of military families will enroll in our public schools quickly and efficiently and have every opportunity to participate in the programs and activities their new school has to offer.

The Interstate Compact will provide member states with guidelines for common issues such as:

- Education Records/Transcripts
- Immunizations
- Pre-K & Kindergarten Age of Attendance
- Educational Program Placement
- Special Education Services
- Extracurricular Programs
- High School Graduation Requirements

For more information about the Interstate Compact, please visit:

[www.csg.org/compacts](http://www.csg.org/compacts)

### Military Child Education Coalition

A team of 5 counselors recently attended an in-depth 2-day training to serve as the action team for CCPS. This team will present pertinent information and resources to administrators and counselors that will equip us in providing support to children and families of the National Guard and Reserve.

As the number of deployed soldiers increases, support to those families and children is crucial. It is estimated that 82% of deployed soldiers have school-aged children.

Please contact Judy Klinger (410-751-3125) or your school counselor for additional information.

### Online Curriculum

Counselors will soon be able to access and contribute to an online curriculum. Many of the K-12 lessons address the 3 counseling goals and have been formatted electronically. Counselors will have the option to pursue, select, and contribute to a live ongoing curriculum to address the specific needs of students.



### Professional Development

All counselors are again participating in a year-long professional development series. Counselors and other colleagues are sharing their expertise with each other through these comprehensive professional trainings. Topics include:

- ◇ Creating online surveys
- ◇ Career Counseling Strategies
- ◇ Anxiety in ES/MS Students
- ◇ Drumming: Creative Group Counseling
- ◇ Strengthening Regional Initiatives to Help Student Transition

Every individual matters.

Every individual has a role to play.

Every individual makes a difference.

~ Jane Goodall

## Student Program Highlights

Century High School, Liberty High School, Winters Mill High School, and Westminster High School recently hosted college/post-secondary planning events. Each school had approximately 200 students and parents turn out for an informative evening on topics such as AP coursework, financial aid, and how to conduct a college search.

Eighth grade students at New Windsor Middle School recently attended a special informative program on sexual harassment. Boys and girls attended separate sessions to learn about their own boundaries and to understand long-term ramifications of undesirable behaviors.

Students at North Carroll Middle School will have the opportunity to visit a local college campus. Having early exposure to post-secondary possibilities is an important part of career development and planning. Students will also be visiting Northrop-Grumman.



Runnymede Elementary School students made 101 blankets to donate to Project Linus!

Students at Friendship Valley Elementary School are being recognized for good attendance. Classrooms with the highest percentage of attendance have a banner hung outside their classroom. Students with perfect attendance were presented with a "Perfect Attendance" keychain.

Cranberry Station Elementary School students are learning about student leadership as they participate in their first Student Government Association!

In March and April, William Winchester Elementary School will be providing several all-school cultural activities and events. Each class will be participating in Cultural Door Decorating: students will select a country, do research, and decorate the outside of their classroom door with artwork and information about their chosen country. Students and staff will play games from around the world on Cultural Game Day. The school is also hosting a Chinese story teller.



## Professionals in Action

Lisa Spera, counselor at Ebb Valley Elementary School, attended the national ASCA (American School Counseling Association) conference in Dallas, Texas with over 2,000 school counselors from around the country.

Diane DeAtley presented a workshop on an adult/student mentoring program that she developed at the annual MSCA (Maryland School Counseling Association) conference.

Carroll County school counselors are active in professional associations and trainings including:

**Love & Logic** - Ann Horner, Jill Millison

**Working Successfully with Difficult and Disruptive Students** - Vonnie Fiore, Robbie Green, Ruth Winsker

**Prevention & Treatment of Violent Youth** - Diane DeAtley, Denise Preller,

**Mean Girls** - Megan Napor, Sue Pahl

**Dealing with Difficult People** - Cathi Myers

**CPI Autism Training** - Tammy Haller

**ACT Workshop** - Dee Muskin

**ADHD Disorder** - Katie Barrett

**Insomnia, Depression, & Anxiety** - Frank Fiore

**Suicide Prevention** - Darlene Gordon, Cheryl Held, Kathy Horneman, Dan Lohrman, Kim Trojanowski

**Military Child Education Coalition** - Caitlin Butler, Cathlin McCormick, Stephany Seargeant, Joy Stewart

**Financial Aid** - Joy Greeley, Mary Naugle, Jessica Quinn,

**UMD Fall Counselor Workshop** - Rosita Ndaka

**Project Lead the Way** - Bev Jordan, Rosita Ndaka, Tara Robinson, George Wunder

**Autism Spectrum Disorder** - Barbara Deitch, Jessica Quinn

**College Admissions Counseling** - Steve Byrnes

**Student Assistance Program** - Rachel Hiner, Ed Wharton

**Strategies for Challenging Behaviors** - Katie Barrett

If you would like further information on any of the above topics, please contact Judy Klinger (x3125) or the counselor(s) listed.

## Professionals in Action, continued

Several school counselors attended the annual Western Maryland School Counselor Conference in McHenry, Maryland in preparation to host next year's conference. This group of counselors will be meeting throughout the school year and over the summer to provide a 3-day event that addresses current counseling issues. This 5-county conference has been held each year for over 20 years. The theme for the coming conference is: "I am... You are... Together We Can Be ONE Team!"

Planning Committee members for this project are:

Claudia Bowen, School Psychologist  
 Bonnie Finch, Secretary  
 Dan Gourley, Shiloh  
 Sean Hembree, Century  
 Nancy Huber, South Carroll  
 Judy Klinger, Supervisor  
 Heidi Kohls, Cranberry Station  
 Lea Nappier, Liberty  
 Leza Rae Owens, Manchester Valley  
 Suzanne Peters, Winfield & Linton Springs  
 Beth Prestianni, Oklahoma Road  
 Christen Purcell, Oklahoma Road & Sykesville  
 Carie Reese, Liberty  
 Laura Shriver, School Psychologist  
 Lynn Uram, Robert Moton

Suggesting career options that fit personality is an important part of counseling ...



"Well, how about fashion merchandising?  
That's kind of like shopping."

## Character Education

Character development and social-emotional learning are key components related to student achievement. School counselors are intricately involved in school-wide initiatives such as PBIS, Support Positive Behaviors, and the development of good character traits through classroom lessons, groups, activities, and events.

For further information:

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

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

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



*Maryland State School of Character*  
 2009  
 East Middle School

1 of just 4 schools in Maryland to be honored!

2010  
 Piney Ridge Elementary School

1 of just 5 school in Maryland to be honored!!

*Maryland Center for Character Education*  
 2008-2009 School of the Year Award

Eldersburg Elementary School

Piney Ridge Elementary School

**The greatest gifts we can give our children are  
the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.**