

# Counselor Chronicles

## National School Counseling Week February 7 - 11, 2011

National School Counseling Week 2011 is celebrated from February 7-11 and focuses public attention on the unique contributions 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.

"Few would argue that opportunity in life is strongly connected with educational opportunity. However, we have often misconstrued the notion of equal access to education to mean that all students should receive precisely the same pacing, resources, and instruction..."

- John Stroup, 2010 UVA Doctoral Student  
Leading and Managing A Differentiated Classroom  
ASCD, 2010

School counselors strive to meet the needs and plan for the specific individual concerns of all students.

The CCPS School Counseling Program consists of four components:

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

The program's comprehensive goals focus on student achievement in the areas of:

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

Counselors now include counseling components to address achievement gaps and equity issues. Providing services according to individual needs will ensure equity and access of opportunities for each student. Visit our web link at:

<http://carrollk12.org/instruction/student-services/counselor/default.asp>

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# WELCOME

## New Counseling Staff - 2010-2011



**Alena Alsrue** . . . . . Shiloh Middle School  
**Kristina Barsoum** . . . . . Carrolltowne Elementary  
**Seth Budai** . . . . . Winters Mill High School  
**Rob Daily** . . . . . Shiloh Middle School  
**Christie Henderson** . . . . . Westminster Elementary

**Mike Jones** . . . . . Winters Mill High School  
**Ashley Lindsay** . . . . . Westminster High School  
**Lisa Maher** . . . . . Eldersburg Elementary  
**Marie Wallach** . . . . . Sykesville Middle School

## Programs and Initiatives

### ◇ MCEC - Military Child Education Coalition

The MCEC Team recently provided training to all administrators and counselors. Information and resources for our military families was included in the training. Please contact your school counselor or Judy Klinger (410-751-3125) for more information.

### ◇ Middle School Career Curriculum

Middle School counselors are implementing a career-related curriculum to enhance the transition to high school. Counselors are providing lessons that include:

- Career exploration
- Completer program options
- The "language of high school"

◇ **High School counselors** are implementing school plans targeted at student achievement and increased rigor.

◇ **Elementary School counselors** are focusing on lessons of empathy as a direct approach to addressing bullying and harassment.

### ◇ Continuing Education Fair

The 33rd annual Continuing Education Fair, held on October 11, 2010, was an outstanding success. Over 135 college and post-secondary institutions were represented, with more than 2,000 students and parents in attendance. The new location - Ag Center's Shipley Arena - has improved and enhanced the overall structure and Fair participation. Thank you to Sean Hembree (Century High School) for chairing this event!

### ◇ Western Maryland School Counselor Conference 2010

This annual conference was planned and delivered by Carroll County Public Schools' counselors and was held in September 2010, in McHenry, Maryland. It was attended by counselors, Student Services staff, and administrators from the five western Maryland counties. Notable keynote speaker was Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, President of UMBC, who brought a message reinforcing the conference theme of the social/emotional components of student learning. Conference workshops focused on the importance of the SEL factors in meeting the educational needs of the whole child.

If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded.

~ Maya Angelou

## Counselors in the News

Counselors are often called upon by parents and community members for their advice and expertise. Recently, several counselors were featured in the *Carroll Magazine*. Quotes and contributions on the following topics were highlighted:

"Are Good Grades Enough on a College Application?"

Kelly Hamilton (Liberty High School)

"Is Your Child Over-Scheduled and Under Stress?"

Beth Prestianni (Oklahoma Road Middle)

Mary Dee Oxen (North Carroll Middle)

CETV Channel 21's **Focus On Education** featured an interview with Shawn Minnier (Westminster High School) and Judy Klinger (Supervisor) on "Preparing for College Admission."



"TODAY I WAS VISITED BY NINE STUDENTS AND TWO TEACHERS."

## Professionals in Action

CCPS school counselors have attended conferences and received training in over 20 different current topics including:

Bullying Awareness and Prevention  
 The Ever Changing Brain  
 Difficult and Disruptive Students  
 Hidden Victims of Domestic Violence  
 Children with Emotional/Behavioral Problems  
 Students with Asperger's  
 Cultural Proficiency for Leaders  
 Dangerous Texting  
 Project Lead the Way  
 Understanding Anxiety Disorders  
 Love & Logic  
 Every 15 Minutes

Today's Teen Culture (Risky Business)  
 "STEM" Professional Learning Community  
 Suicide Prevention  
 Peer Mediation



Interested in more info on any of these topics? Please contact Judy Klinger. 410-.751.3125 [jakling@carrollk12.org](mailto:jakling@carrollk12.org)

## Student Program Highlights

At the conclusion of the bullying unit at **Runnymede Elementary School**, students were asked to create a poem. A 4th grade student wrote the following poem and then drew a picture to express her feelings.

Frightening the target or bystander  
 Overly powerful  
 Rapidly hurting you or other people  
 Claiming your worthless & weak  
 Establishes fear throughout you.



As part of **Spring Garden Elementary School's** PBIS program, and in conjunction with the SIT plan's goal of increasing the home/school connection, a **Wall of Paws** was created. Each student received a paw form on which parents could provide an example of how their child has demonstrated one or more of **Spring Garden's** Top Tiger Traits (Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Effort) at home or in the community. The paws are displayed in the hallway surrounding the PBIS bulletin board to be viewed by students, staff and visitors.

**Century, Francis Scott Key, North Carroll, Westminster, and Winters Mill High Schools** held post-secondary programming to assist students and parents with planning and transitioning from high school to continuing education and/or the world of work.



**Francis Scott Key High School** hosted the Northwest Regional Night, "Life Beyond P-12," in January 2011. This event offered presentations for elementary, middle, and high school students and parents and featured a keynote panel of experts including the Carroll Community College Director of Admissions, Dean of Freshmen at McDaniel College, Sales Director for Evapco, US Army Recruiter, and **Krissy Welty**, counselor at FSK. The evening offered sessions on:

Bullying and Harassment  
 Cyberbullying  
 Special Education Information  
 Scheduling-6th, 7th & 8th grades  
 Mentoring Program

CCPL-Online Tutoring  
 Internship Program  
 ASVAB/Military Info  
 NCAA Eligibility  
 Acuplacer

## Awards and Honors

The following counselors were nominated for the **ASCA School Counselor of the Year** (American School Counseling Association) award:

Vonnie Fiore, Runnymede Elem.      Gwen Furano, Manchester Elementary  
Carolyn Hunsicker, Century High      Christina Mohlhenrich, Winters Mill High

Christina Mohlhenrich, School Counseling Department Chair at Winters Mill High School, was one of eight Finalists for the **2010 Teacher of the Year** award!



**CCPS Employee Recognition** - These counselors and Student Services members were recognized at the Fall Employee Recognition ceremony for their "beyond the call of duty" contributions to CCPS!

### MCEC Team (Military Child Ed. Coalition)

Caitlin Butler, West Middle School  
Judy Klinger, Supervisor  
Cathlin McCormick, East Middle School  
Stephany Seargeant, South Carroll High  
Joy Stewart, Oklahoma Road Middle

### MSCA Board Member

(Md. School Counselor Association)  
Sean Hembree - Century High School



### Western Maryland School Counselor Conference Team

Claudia Bowen, School Psychologist  
Bonnie Finch, Supervisor's Secretary  
Dan Gourley, Northwest Middle School  
Sean Hembree, Century High School  
Nancy Huber, South Carroll High School  
Judy Klinger, Supervisor  
Heidi Kohls, Winters Mill High School  
Lea Nappier, Liberty High School  
Leza Rae Owens, Manchester Valley High  
Suzanne Peters, Robert Moton Elementary  
Beth Prestianni, Oklahoma Road Middle  
Christen Purcell, Sykesville Middle School  
Carie Reese, Manchester Valley High  
Laura Shriver, School Psychologist  
Lynn Uram, Linton Springs/Winfield Elem.

## CHARACTER EDUCATION

The Character Education/Discipline Committee is comprised of teachers, counselors, and administrators from around the county. As the result of a county-wide survey conducted in June 2010, the Committee is focusing on anti-bullying and student-to-student respect. Themes for the 2010-2011 CEDC meetings are:

- Student-led programs and media influences
- Strategic planning
- Parent involvement

For additional information, please contact Dana Falls, Nora (Catherine) Murray, or Judy Klinger in the Student Services Department.

## Award Winning CCPS Schools

### MARYLAND STATE SCHOOLS OF CHARACTER

Piney Ridge Elementary - **WINNER**  
 Eldersburg Elementary - **Honorable Mention**  
 Winters Mill High - **Emerging**



### MD Center for Character Education SCHOOLS OF THE YEAR

Ebb Valley Elementary  
 Winters Mill High