EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: GUIDANCE PROGRAM

ADOPTED: August 19, 2002

REVISED: August 21, 2006

112. GUIDANCE PROGRAM

1. Purpose

The Board acknowledges that students at all stages of growth and development exhibit needs that sometimes can be met through a formal guidance program. In response to these needs, the guidance program must be designed to meet a wide range of both academic and social/emotional issues that confront today's students. Therefore, both academic and personal counseling are appropriate roles for the school counselors, and formal programs may be structured to provide both prevention and intervention support to students. The counseling program may also serve as an assessment/referral system for students in need of additional care or long-term therapy through community agencies.

2. Title 22 Sec. 4.34 School guidance services are an important part of the school program, consisting of coordinated plan involving pupils, parents and all members of the professional staff, as well as numerous specialists. The counselor plays a major role in developing and implementing a plan of guidance.

Objectives of the school guidance program concern the educational, emotional and social development of all students in relation to their total school experience.

The program promotes student development of positive self-awareness and successful coping skills by assisting students in making decisions and changing behavior.

The school counseling program promotes success through a focus on academic achievement, prevention and intervention activities, advocacy and social/emotional and career development. The program also provides individual or group counseling, support intervention programs for at-risk students, and crisis intervention when appropriate and feasible.

A guidance counseling program is an integral part of the instructional program of the schools of the school district. Such a program can:

- 1. Assist students in achieving their optimum potential.
- 2. Enable students to significantly benefit from the offerings of the instructional program.
- 3. Identify intellectual, emotional, social and physical needs.

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	4. Aid students in recognizing options and making choices in vocational and academic educational planning.
	5. Assist students in identifying career options consistent with their abilities and goals.
	6. Help students learn to make their own decisions and to solve problems independently.
	7. Help to coordinate a system for identification of learning problems.
2. Authority Title 22 Sec. 4.34, 12.41	The Board directs that a program of guidance and counseling shall be offered to students that involves the coordinated efforts of all staff members, under the professional leadership of certificated guidance and counseling personnel.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent or designee shall implement a guidance program that serves the needs of students.
	The counselor shall serve as a resource person for students, parents, teachers and administrators, helping to meet the developmental needs of students.
3.4.Guidelines	The school district's program of guidance counseling shall:
	1. Be an integral part of the instruction program at all levels of the school district.
Title 22 Sec. 12.16	2. Involve staff members at every appropriate level.
	3. Honor the individuality of each student.
	4. Be coordinated with services provided by locally available social and human services agencies.
Pol. 103 <u>, 103.1</u>	5. Cooperate with parents/guardians and address their concerns for the development of the student.
	6. Be available equally to all students.
	7. Establish a referral system that utilizes resources offered by the school and community, guards the privacy of the student, and monitors the effectiveness of such referrals.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent or designee shall implement a guidance program that serves the needs of students.
	The counselor shall serve as a resource person for students, parents, teachers and

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administrators, helping to meet the developmental needs of students. The counselor shall help to develop and coordinate communications between parents, school staff, and students. References:
State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.34, 12.16, 12.41 Board Policy – 103, 103.1, 146