

## **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING PROGRAM**

### School Guidance and Counseling Services

Each school provides the following guidance and counseling services to all students:

- a. Academic Guidance - Guidance which assists students and their parents to acquire knowledge of the curricula choices available to students, to plan a program of studies, to arrange and interpret academic testing, and to seek post-secondary academic opportunities;
- b. Career Guidance - Guidance which helps students to acquire information and to pursue opportunities regarding work, jobs, apprenticeships, and post-secondary educational and career opportunities;
- c. Personal/Social Counseling - Counseling which assists a student to develop an understanding of themselves, the rights and needs of others, how to resolve conflict and to define individual goals, reflecting his/her interests, abilities and aptitudes. Parents may elect, by notifying their child's school in writing, to have their child not participate in personal/social counseling.

No student is required to participate in any counseling program to which the student's parents object.

The guidance and counseling program does not include the use of counseling techniques which are beyond the scope of the professional certification or training of counselors, including hypnosis, or other psychotherapeutic techniques that are normally employed in medical or clinical settings and focus on mental illness or psychopathology.

Parents are notified annually in writing about the counseling programs which are available to their children. The notification will include the purpose and general description of the programs, information regarding ways parents review materials to be used in guidance and counseling programs at their child's school and information about the procedure by which parents may limit their child's participation in such programs.

### Employment Counseling and Placement Services

The School Board provides to secondary students employment counseling and placement services to furnish information relating to the employment opportunities available to students graduating from or leaving the schools in the school division. Such information includes all types of employment opportunities, including, but not limited to, apprenticeships, the military, career education schools and the teaching profession. In providing such services, the School Board consults and cooperates with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Department of Labor and Industry, local business and labor organizations and career schools.

<b>ADOPTED:</b>	July 1, 1991
<b>REVISED:</b>	July 1, 1996 March 10, 2009 September 9, 2014
<b>LEGAL REFERENCES:</b>	Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-209.  8 VAC 20-620-10.
<b>CROSS REFERENCES:</b>	IGAD Career and Technical Education JO Student Records