

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES

The guidance and counseling services of Holdenville Public Schools will meet state requirements and encompass the following purposes, objectives, and activities:

1. A program for testing students in Holdenville Public Schools to identify students with outstanding aptitudes and abilities related to educational and career planning progress will be developed.
2. The services will make available to the students and parents such educational and career information as may be essential for them to understand the various educational and career opportunities and requirements related to the choice of educational programs and careers.
3. Individual counseling will be provided to help the students and parents develop a better understanding of the students' educational and occupational strengths and weaknesses; to help them relate abilities and aptitudes to educational and career opportunities and requirements; to help them make appropriate educational plans including the choice of courses in the secondary school and the choice of an institution providing training above and beyond the high school; to stimulate a desire in the students to utilize aptitudes in attaining appropriate educational and career goals.
4. Individual cumulative folders will be maintained to provide teachers and school administrators such information about individual students or groups of students as may be necessary to enable them to plan curricular and instructional programs appropriate to the educational needs of the student body and to the manpower needs of the state and nation.

5. Counseling will be provided to the individual students regarding personal social, and emotional problems. The counselor will recognize that many cases require professional psychiatric referral and will assist the students and parents in receiving these services.

The guidance program shall be incorporated into the curriculum to aid students in making informed and responsible decisions and in utilizing effective decision making processes. The guidance program shall be coordinated from the principal's office and shall provide for the participation of all those staff members and others who can help students acquire the insights and knowledge they need to become autonomous, mature members of adult society in a democratic nation.

The primary purpose of the guidance program shall be to assist students in learning to make their own decisions concerning life's many choices – personal, educational, and vocational. Before completion of high school, each student should reach the point of maturity where the student – within the usual limits of circumstances – is able to make virtually all decisions affecting his or her life.

The second major purpose of the guidance program shall be to provide, as fully as possible, the information needed to make the best decisions. Such information shall include facts (test scores, vocational information, etc.) as well as estimates, judgments, opinions, and other advice. Part of the decision-making skills students are helped to learn shall be the solicitation and search for data and advice from a variety of sources as well as the evaluation and use of such information and suggestions.