

# Advocacy and Promoting Your School Counseling Program

## Benefits for Students

- Ensures every student receives the benefit of the school counseling program by designing content curriculum for every student
- Monitors data to facilitate student improvement
- Provides strategies for closing the achievement gap, realizing some students need more assistance
- Promotes a rigorous academic curriculum for every student
- Ensure all students have access to educational opportunities
- Fosters advocacy for students
- Supports development of skills to increase student success

## Benefits for Parents or Guardians

- Provides support in advocating for their children's academic, career and social-emotional development
- Supports partnerships in their children's learning and career planning
- Ensures academic planning for every student
- Provides training and informational workshops
- Connects to community- and school-based services
- Provides data for continuous information on student progress
- Ensures every student receives the content of the school counseling curriculum
- Promotes a philosophy that some students require more assistance and seeks to ensure they receive it

## Benefits for Teachers

- Promotes an interdisciplinary team approach to address student needs and educational goals
- Increases collaboration with school counselors and teachers
- Supports development of classroom-management skills
- Provides a system for co-facilitation of school counseling classroom lessons
- Supports the learning environment
- Promotes teaming to increase student achievement
- Analyzes data to improve school climate and student achievement

## Benefits for Administrators

- Aligns the school counseling program with the school's academic mission
- Provides a school counseling program promoting student success
- Monitors data for school improvement
- Provides a system for managing a school counseling program
- Articulates a process for evaluating a school counseling program
- Uses data to jointly develop school counseling program goals and school counselor responsibilities
- May provide useful data for grant applications and funding sources
- Provides a proactive school counseling classroom curriculum addressing the students' needs and enhancing school climate

## Benefits for the Boards and Department of Education

- Provides a rationale based on data for implementing a school counseling program
- Ensures all students have access to a quality school counseling program
- Demonstrates the need for appropriate levels of funding
- Articulates appropriate credentials and staffing ratios
- Informs the community about school counseling program success
- Provides data about improved student achievement

## Benefits for School Counselors

- Defines responsibilities within the context of a school counseling program
- Seeks to eliminate nonessential activities for school counselors
- Supports access to every student
- Provides a tool for program management, implementation, and accountability
- Recognizes school counselors as leaders, advocates, and change agents
- Ensures the school counseling program's contribution to the school's mission
- Improves the use of the school counselors' time to ensure they have the time available to provide school counseling services that benefit ALL students

### **Benefits to Counselor Educators**

- Builds collaboration between counselor education programs and schools
- Provides a framework for school counseling programs
- Provides a model for site-based school counseling fieldwork or internships
- Increases data collection for collaborative research on school counseling programs
- Establishes a framework for professional development to benefit practicing school counselors
- Promotes alliances with other constituent training programs

### **Benefits for Postsecondary Education**

- Enhances articulation and transition of students to postsecondary institutions
- Prepares every student for advanced educational opportunities
- Motivates every student to seek a wide range of substantial postsecondary options
- Encourages and supports rigorous academic preparation
- Promotes access to postsecondary education for every student

### **Benefits for Student Services Personnel**

- Defines the school counseling program
- Maximizes collaborative teaming to ensure individual student success
- Uses school counseling program data to maximize benefits to individual student growth
- Increases collaboration for utilizing school and community resources

### **Benefits for Community: Business, Labor, and Industry**

- Increases opportunities for business, industry, and labor to actively participate in the school counseling program
- Builds collaboration, which enhances a student's postsecondary success
- Connects business, industry, and labor to students and families
- Supports the academic preparation necessary for students' success in the workforce