

# Counselor Standards

1. A school counselor articulates and applies a comprehensive school counseling philosophy.

The school counselor shall:

- a. articulate counseling philosophy and beliefs.
- b. engage in self-evaluation.
- c. understand and describe how beliefs and practices are tied to current research on effective practices.

2. A school counselor understands how students learn and develop and applies that knowledge in the counselor's practice.

A school counselor shall:

- a. identify and facilitate programs appropriate to the developmental needs and abilities of students.
- b. demonstrate understanding and application of school counseling theory.

3. A school counselor respects individual and cultural differences.

A school counselor shall:

- a. demonstrate the belief that all students can learn and encourage achievement at the highest level for each student.
- b. identify and use counseling strategies and resources that are appropriate to the individual and special needs of students.
- c. incorporate characteristics of cultural differences into the school counseling program.
- d. promote positive self-concept in students.

4. A school counselor knows and facilitates the components of a comprehensive school counseling program.

A school counselor shall:

- a. demonstrate knowledge of the four program components of a comprehensive school counseling program.
- b. facilitate a school counseling program.
- c. establish the relevancy of the school counseling program.
- d. use time effectively.

5. A school counselor facilitates, monitors, and assesses student development.

A school counselor shall:

- a. facilitate student development.
- b. monitor student development.
- c. use assessment as a tool to facilitate student development.
- d. inform parents, students, and staff of student development.
- e. collaborate with agencies and schools.

6. A school counselor supports a positive learning environment.

A school counselor shall:

- a. support a positive learning environment.
- b. reinforce high expectations for students.
- c. utilize counseling strategies that promote learning.
- d. demonstrate effective classroom management skills.
- e. promote a safe school environment.

7. A school counselor works as a partner with parents, families and the community.

A school counselor shall:

- a. promote partnerships and maintain regular communication.
- b. communicate the school counseling activities.
- c. consult with appropriate individuals and agencies.

8. A school counselor participates in and contributes to the school counseling profession.

A school counselor shall:

- a. maintain accurate records and appropriate oral and written communication.
- b. display individual professional responsibility and decorum.
- c. establish and maintain relationships with colleagues.