

October 2016

# Counselor Connection

By FCSC Elementary School Counselors  
& Social Workers

## MEET THE COUNSELOR/SOCIAL WORKER

You may have heard your child talk about the school counselor and social worker at his/her school and may be wondering who the counselor and social worker are and what they do. The counselor and social worker both play an important role at your child's school! Both love children and want to see your child succeed and can be a listening ear for your child while they are here at school; however, there are a few differences in our roles!

The school counselor provides individual/small group counseling, works with teachers and parents to support children's needs, provides classroom guidance lessons in every classroom, helps in identifying academic/social/emotional needs of children and the list could go on.

The school social worker is an advocate who helps students reach their potential in the school setting, provides support services, assists families in finding resources in the community, addresses attendance concerns and again the list could go on.

- Denise Gulley, Counselor - Eastview & Everton
- Karin Miller, Counselor - Fayette Central & Maplewood
- Bethany Sinkhorn, Counselor - Frazee & Grandview
- Ashley Baker, Social Worker - Everton, Frazee, & Grandview
- Tabby Silcott, Social Worker - Eastview, Fayette Central & Maplewood

## COLLEGE GO! WEEK 2016

In September we celebrated College Go! Week. This was a fun-filled week where we learned about colleges and careers. Students got to learn about the colleges our teachers and staff attended. All of our students got to dress up in their college gear and some schools had students dress as what they would like to be when they grow up! Our older students got to learn about different types of colleges and degrees that are available to them. They also went on a scavenger hunt of Indiana colleges! Our younger students spent some time learning about what it's like to live at college in a dorm. They also helped The Flash pack his suitcase to move to college, making sure that he only packed items that were allowed at college. Be sure to check out the Fayette County School Corporation Facebook for pictures from our fantastic week!



It takes a big  
**heart**  
to help shape  
**little**  
**minds.**



## RED RIBBON WEEK



**OCTOBER 24 - 28**

The National Red Ribbon Campaign began in 1985 after Enrique (Kiki) Camarena, an American DEA agent, was killed in Mexico while doing some undercover work. In honor of his memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends and neighbors began to wear red badges of satin.

In Fayette County schools, we recognize Red Ribbon Week as an important time for drug prevention education. At the elementary level, we have a focus on being healthy as well as what is healthy and safe to put in our bodies versus what is unhealthy and unsafe to put in our bodies.

During Red Ribbon Week, each elementary student will get a pencil with the national theme "YOLO" to remind them that we truly only live once, so we should treat our bodies nicely! Each elementary student will also get a different drug-free sticker every day during Red Ribbon Week.

## EVERY DAY COUNTS!



Did you know September was attendance awareness month? We hope your child talked to you about the different challenges that were going on at his/her school during the month of September. Your school counselor and social worker will be promoting different attendance challenges throughout the school year.

FCSC takes school attendance very seriously and will send letters if your child reaches a certain amount of unexcused absences/tardies. Receiving a letter may seem harsh; however, we care about your child and do not want to see him/her fall behind. While missing a day of school here and there may not seem significant, it can lead to a student falling behind academically. Remember it is NEVER too late to start building the habit of great attendance.

Here are some tips from Attendance Works:

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

## FALL BREAK

Fall break is a time to explore all the changes a new season brings. Make it a point to take notice of these changes with your family. Share and encourage gratitude for the seasons we experience in Indiana. Ask questions like, "What do you like about Fall? What is your favorite season? Why?"



Fall Break is a great opportunity to spend time together without the stress and errands that go along with a school week. Take time to reflect on the beginning of the school year. What has gone well so far? What, if any, changes need to be made... "I've noticed we did really well with our morning routine this year, but I think we need to pay more attention to our night time routine. I've noticed we are getting to bed later and later. What kind of changes do we need to make?" Create some new goals for the next nine weeks.

Here are some more ideas that might turn into some "Fall Break" family traditions for years to come!

- Carve or decorate a pumpkin
- Take a walk/hike
- Family bike ride
- Put together a challenging puzzle
- Help the kids learn how to cook their favorite recipe
- Visit the Library
- Volunteer at the Animal shelter
- Make cookies for the firehouse closest to you
- Board games
- Reminisce through family albums/home movies