

**Coeur d'Alene School District No. 271**  
**2300P**  
Guidance and Counseling

School Counselors are certified/licensed, highly educated professionals who promote the achievement and success of K-12 students. Working closely with school administrators, teachers and parents/guardians, School Counselors support all aspects of a student's life to improve student outcomes.

School Counselors engage in social, emotional and academic learning opportunities and college and career planning with their students. They also provide school wide programming and classroom lessons to support student development and positive school culture. Topics may include but are not limited to:

- Bullying prevention
- Suicide prevention
- Personal safety lessons
- Emotional regulation and coping skills
- Conflict resolution
- Study skills, time management and learning styles

School counseling is meant to be short-term, responsive and preventative as School Counselors do not diagnose students or engage in long-term therapy or mental health treatment. At times, School Counselors facilitate small group counseling to meet the individual needs of students which requires parent/guardian permission for participation. When a student or family need cannot be met in the school setting, School Counselors connect students and families to outside resources and agencies.

**Confidentiality:**

School Counselors acknowledge and affirm the fundamental rights of parents/guardians to be the primary voice and authority in their children's lives. They also understand that trust is the foundation of any supportive and helping relationship and hold an ethical obligation to keep student conversation private and confidential. This obligation can be different for each student depending on the child's developmental and chronological age and the nature of the issue or the level of harm present. School Counselors understand their role is to balance a student's rights to make choices and have privacy while maintaining appropriate communication and partnership with the family to support their parental rights.

School Counselors, as mandated reporters, are required to contact a parent/guardian and/or other appropriate agencies as soon as possible to prioritize student safety when the following is to/or has harmed self (thoughts of suicide/suicidal ideation).