All I Needed to Know About Counseling, I Learned it My First Year

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Session Overview

• Thinking Back: What worked? What can be improved?

• Looking Forward
  • Program Management
  • Program Initiatives
  • Communication/Public Relations/Branding
  • Goal Setting
  • Professional Learning Opportunities
  • Self-Care
  • Crafting Your Vision
Questions to Ponder:
What do you feel like you need to do your job?
How are students different as a result of the services you provide?

Evaluate Your Year

What went well?
• Example: Used an online scheduling system like google calendar to schedule classroom presentations.

What didn’t go well?
• Example: Teachers requesting you to attend parent teacher conferences and you were not able to fulfill all of the requests.

The Connection:
Use online scheduling system for teachers to request your presence at conferences. If the desired time slot isn’t available, then they can either reschedule a time that you are free or you can schedule a follow-up meeting after conferences.
Mirror, Mirror on the wall…How was my counseling program overall?

• Did you run the groups you wanted to run?
• Did you respond in a timely manner to phone calls and emails?
• Did you do all that was required of the state mandates related to careers?
• How did you stay abreast of the current issues in school counseling?
• Did you cover all the standards & competencies you wanted to cover this year?
• What initiatives did you do to help your students achieve academic success?

Looking Forward

Goal Setting for Your School Counseling Program
Program Management: Pulling the Pieces Together

- Principal-Counselor Annual Agreement
- Calendars (Annual & Weekly)
- School Data Profile
- Update Your Referral List
- Review Previous Student Roster
- Send a Letter to Parents
- Create a Counselor Binder
- Develop an Organization System for Activities
- Decorate Your Office
- PURGE, PURGE, PURGE as you go

Program Initiatives

- Needs Assessments (staff, parents, & students)
- Data Review
- Core Curriculum Lessons (formerly classroom guidance)
- Small Groups…Type? How often? Curriculum?
- Themed Days/Weeks
- Advisory Council
- Parent Involvement
Communication/ Public Relations

• Spice up your role during OPEN HOUSE
• Create a school counseling brochure
• Update School Counseling Website
• Toot Your Horn...Marketing Your Program
• Meet & Greet New Teachers to your school
• Community Relations
• Incorporate Technology
• Counselor’s Corner in school’s electronic newsletter
• Don’t be afraid to “Tell Your Story”
Brand Your Program

Uniform color scheme & Font Package

- Use in all of your publications
- Go easy on the font choices

Create a logo for your department

- Use your images on EVERYTHING your department creates.

What can you do to...

- Demonstrate leadership and collaboration?

- Promote a respectful environment for a diverse population of students?

- Promote learning for ALL students?
Professional Learning Opportunities

• GaDOEs Summer Regional Workshops
• GaDOEs Webinars
• GSCA Annual Conference
• Your Local District Meetings
• ASCA Conference & Webinars

Self-Care

How do you take care of yourself so you don’t get burned out?

Self-care is an explicit ethical mandate for school counselors. In the ASCA Code of Ethics, E.1.b, Professional School Counselors: "Monitor emotional and physical health and practice wellness to ensure optimal effectiveness. Seek physical or mental health referrals when needed to ensure competence at all times."

• Balance
• “I Love My Job” folder
• Soft music playing in your office (very relaxing)
• Engage with family/friends
• Recreational Activities
• Set boundaries
• Seek out your own therapist
Crafting Your Vision

• Vision Statement
• What would be on your school counseling vision board?
• Through the use of vision boards, you can focus on your goals and create the school counseling life you imagined.
• Create one over the summer.
• Post in your office. Could potentially become a discussion piece.

Come Experience the MAGIC
Summer Professional Learning for School Counselors

May 31, June 1, June 2
Macon Centreplex – Macon, GA - 8:15 AM – 3:00 PM
Lunch will be provided.
Hotel block available at Macon Marriott for $109 per night.
(Reference CTAE Resource Network when booking.)

To Register:
1. Visit www.ctaern.org Login info: First three letters of last name and last four digits of SSN
2. Workshop Catalog
3. Workshop Categories (upper right)
4. Guidance/Career Development
5. Click “Register” tab to register for the desired summer workshop(s) you would like to attend.
6. An email confirmation will be sent to you after successfully registering for each the workshop.

Get ready for a Top Hat Magical Summer.....Abracadabra...Ayla kazoo
This summer will be magical because of all the great updates the Georgia Department of Education has in store for you!
Each show will leave you wanting more because each show is filled with MAGIC!
The Gadoe will happen on May 31, June 1, and June 2. Counselors are encouraged to choose the day that works best for them. Lunch will be provided for all sessions.

A few of the highlights for the Gadoe are:
- "Move On When Ready" Updates
- Updates from Various State Agencies
- Legislative Updates that Impact School Counselors
- The Future of Career Planning in Georgia

Intended Audience:
Middle and High School Counselors (8:15AM - 3:00PM) & Elementary School Counselors (12:00 PM — 3:00 PM)

Intended Audience:
Elementary
8:15 AM—12:00 PM
Participate in Main Event from 12-3

Intended Audience: Elementary, Middle, High
8:15 AM—3:00 PM

The webinar poll: Offer input into next year's webinars.

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