

# ANDREA CASTILLO PREPARATORY ACADEMY SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

## General Overview

The elementary school years set the foundation for developing the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary for children to become healthy, competent and confident learners. School counselors have an impact on these years by implementing a counseling program and collaborating with school staff, parents and the community to create a safe and respectful learning environment. By providing education, prevention, early identification, and intervention, elementary school counselors help their students achieve academic success, develop an understanding of career opportunities and strengthen social-emotional skills in response to issues they face. Numerous studies demonstrate the value of school counseling for students in the domains of academic development, college and career readiness, and social-emotional development. Results of research about the effectiveness of school counseling can be found at:

[schoolcounselor.org/effectiveness](http://schoolcounselor.org/effectiveness)

## What Does An Elementary School Counselor Do?

At ACPA, the counselor supports your child's growth in many ways. This is accomplished by helping students build skills for success in school, plan for their future, and navigate personal and social challenges. They also step in when students face obstacles or need extra support. Counselors also collaborate with stakeholders by providing professional assistance and support to a student or small group of students during times of transition, heightened stress, critical change, or other situations impacting student success.

Direct Services May Include: Instruction, Counseling, and Advisement

Indirect Services May Include: Consultation, Collaboration, and Referrals

## Visiting The Counselor

Students may see the school counselor when there is a:

- Student Self-Referral
- Teacher or Administrator Referral
- Parent Referral
- Counselor Observation

Please note: School counselors do not provide therapy or long-term counseling. However, they are prepared to recognize and respond to student mental health needs and assist students and families seeking resources.

## Confidentiality

Student and family privacy is very important. All information shared with the school counselor is kept confidential unless:

- A student is planning to harm themselves.
- A student is planning to harm someone else.
- There is suspicion of neglect and/or abuse.

Ensuring the safety of all students at ACPA is our top priority. We are committed to implementing the necessary help and support for all students. Additionally, we report concerns to the appropriate authorities as required by law when necessary.

## Contact Information

Email: [345677@dadeschools.net](mailto:345677@dadeschools.net)

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