

ANNE GAME RIVERS EDGE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

RIVERS EDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING PROGRAM

I am excited to share with you information about the guidance and counseling program at Rivers Edge Elementary School. Henrico County Public School's approach to guidance and counseling is preventative and developmental. Classroom lessons and small groups are designed to help all students succeed academically and socially. The various components are summarized in this letter.

CLASSROOM GUIDANCE

Part of the program includes visits by the counselor to your child's classroom for planned, sequential guidance activities. Some of the topics addressed might be: understanding self, building positive self-concept, cooperation, getting along, bully-proofing, study & test-taking skills, decision making, character education, and career awareness.

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

Individual counseling is available to students at the request of parents, students, and teachers. When a series of individual sessions is deemed appropriate, parents are informed of the sessions, written permission is requested, and parental reinforcement of concepts introduced in counseling sessions is encouraged.

GROUP COUNSELING

Group counseling is available to all students and may be requested by parents, students or teachers. Parental permission letters are sent home prior to group participation. Groups will last approximately six weeks. Some possible groups are success groups (retained students), self-esteem, friendship, anger management, study skills, loss/grief, responsibility/choices, feelings, conflict resolution and separation/divorce. Please contact me if you are interested in having your child participate in one of these groups.

COUNSELING MATERIALS

Materials used in counseling include worksheets, games, puppets, art media, bibliotherapy, and more. Please feel free to visit the guidance office and browse through any of the materials used in the counseling process.

OTHER GUIDANCE SERVICES

- Consultation with parents, teachers, and support staff to discuss problems, which might be interfering with academic achievement, and to plan strategies for successful learning
- Coordination of different school-related activities such as:
 - Career-awareness, which focuses on exploring students' interests in the world of work and introducing them to various careers they may consider in the future.
 - Conflict resolution program, where students are trained in learning how to solve problems in a non-violent manner.

When parents, teachers, and counselors work together, children see a consistency in their lives, which promotes success. Thank you for all the work you do with your child(ren)! I look forward to working with you to ensure your child(ren)'s success this year!