



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES

St Paul Lutheran School offers a School Counseling Program which is based on the national standards created by the American School Counselor's Association (ASCA) with the purpose of supporting the whole student: spiritually, intellectually, physically, and socially. The school counselor is available as a resource for students, parents, faculty, and staff. The school counselor provides primarily short-term, temporary services for areas of personal conflict, guidance lessons in the classrooms, large and small issue-specific groups, and support for teachers and parents as they attend to the needs of each student. As confidentiality is at the core of the counseling relationship, student and family privacy is of the utmost importance. Generally, the individual level of confidentiality increases as the student's age increases. St Paul Lutheran School believes that student issues are best solved with the family involved and depending on the age/need of the student, the counselor will either share with the parents that their student has visited or will encourage the student to share with their parents that the two have met. If a student is in danger of being harmed or harming himself or others, the counselor is legally obligated to share this information with the appropriate persons. Referrals are made to professional counselors and outside agencies when therapy or long-term counseling would be beneficial. Students and parents are encouraged to contact the counselor with any concerns that may be impacting a student's academic, social, or emotional functioning. The parent agrees, unless written notice is provided to the school office, to their student's access to counseling services.