

Sudduth Elementary School

School Counseling Services

Mary Ruth Caradine, K Counselor & Dawn Swartz, 1st Grade Counselor

SERVICES PROVIDED BY SUDDUTH COUNSELORS

Individual Counseling: Counseling is provided to individual students based on referrals made to counselors by administrators, teachers and parents. Parental permission is obtained for students receiving ongoing individual counseling services.

Small Group Counseling: Small groups are formed by counselors to address the common needs of selected students. Parental permission is obtained before students are seen by counselors in a small group setting.

Classroom Guidance: Counselors go into the classrooms for 30-45 minute lessons about once a month. We use the *Conscious Discipline* curriculum which teaches students about their feelings: how to name them and how to deal with them. These lessons are linked with **The Leader In Me.**

Parent Conferences: Counselors frequently initiate parent conferences to discuss issues which are preventing students from being successful in school, either academically or behaviorally. Counselors also are called upon to sit in on teacher or administrator initiated parent conferences. Parents often contact counselors by phone or drop in to solicit help and/or information to assist them in helping their children-the issues can be school-based and/or home-based. At these early ages, issues at home significantly affect school performance.

Administrator and Teacher Consultations: Consultations with teachers regarding students and parents is an ongoing, daily service which counselors provide. Counselors are called upon frequently to work with administrators regarding individual students and groups of students.

Teacher Support Team Grade Level Meetings: Counselors sit in on all Teacher Support Team meetings for the students they serve by grade level. Counselors are an integral part of this process of educational planning by helping facilitate successful outcomes for these individual students who need additional help.

Lighthouse Team Committee: This team facilitates the implementation of THE LEADER IN ME at Sudduth. Counselors contribute by assisting in the creation, facilitation and implementation of various programs, such as SUDDUTH KIDS, staff appreciation, student recognition, bus driver appreciation, school-wide Celebration of Leaders, welcoming new students, parent workshops and Lunch Bunch presentations.

Tier 2 Committee: These monthly data-driven meetings address the needs of students who need assistance being successful with positive behavior. Counselors provide professional expertise in selecting appropriate interventions for those students. Counselors, through

personal knowledge of their students, provide invaluable insight into the needs and issues affecting students.

IEP & MET Committee Members: Sudduth Counselors sit in on many Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for students receiving Special Education Services, including speech.

Sudduth Kids: Ms Caradine is the school coordinator for this 24-year-old character education program. As the coordinator, she is responsible for soliciting all sponsors, receiving all funds, working with the bookkeeper regarding the funds, ordering the shirts, ordering the posters and certificates, and coordinating the school-wide thank-you letter writing. Each counselor, by grade, is in charge of getting all student shirt sizes by classroom, handing out all classroom shirts, soliciting the weekly names, and printing all weekly classrooms certificates.

ELL Program/Testing: Dr. Swartz is the school-wide coordinator for this program. As such, she works with the District ELL Coordinator in identifying potential ELL students, screening these students for eligibility, and meeting with teachers and parents regarding services for ELL students. In April she administers the LAS Links, state-mandated assessment to these students.

MKAS-2 State Testing Program: The Kindergarten counselor is the school test coordinator for this testing which is given at the beginning of school and again at the end. The counselor sets up the testing times for each K classroom and facilitates all the testing sessions.

Liaison with Community Counseling Services, Department of Human Services, and other Area and State Service Providers: Counselors work closely with providers and families who are receiving services from outside agencies. Counselors work with in-patient psychiatric facilities, such as Diamond Grove, Millcreek and Brentwood. Counselors also work with outpatient medical and psychiatric facilities and service providers. Counselors often facilitate having medication and side-effects checklist monitoring completed for parents and service providers.

Professional Development for Faculty & Staff: Counselors conduct professional development on topics such as Suicide Prevention, DHS Referrals, Positive Behavior Intervention and Support, The Leader In Me, Cumulative Folders, and Behavior/Classroom Management.

Parent Workshops: Through Lunch Bunch and independently, counselors provide workshops for parents on various topics.

Student Placement: Counselors work closely with the administration on the placement of students in classrooms for the upcoming school year.

For more information, call the school office and ask for:

**Mary Ruth Caradine, Kindergarten Counselor or
Dawn Swartz, 1st Grade Counselor 662-324-4150**