

Student Services

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Student Services Department Mission Statement

The Student Services Department of Lyons Township High School believes that student services are an integral part of the total school's educational program. We believe that an effective program of student services is instructional in nature and includes developmental activities organized and implemented by student services personnel in collaboration with teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, and students.

An emphasis on the developmental/preventive processes of student services has led to the creation of a comprehensive guidance curriculum. Effective programs and activities are delivered by counselors, social workers, and school health personnel through the following major services:

- **Informational Service, for academics and post high school**
- **Counseling Service, for personal, social development planning**
- **Consultation Service, for home and school integration**
- **Coordination Service, for home, school, and community interactions**

The Student Services curriculum, programs, and activities at Lyons Township High School are designed to address the needs of all students by assisting them to make individually appropriate choices which promote healthy intellectual, emotional, and physical development. We believe that these programs and activities strengthen and encourage the development and clarification of the student's personal sense of uniqueness. The Student Services curriculum, programs, and activities are enhanced through continuing student and alumni assessments and ongoing professional development endeavors that are reflective of current research and practice in this field.

By pursuing this mission, we believe Student Services makes meaningful contributions to the attainment of personal and academic student success at Lyons Township High School.

Did You Know?

...Going to lths.net, clicking on Student Resources, then College/Career Center, you can find career and college links.

...LTHS has a Student Support Team (SST) for every grade level. The team consists of an Assistant Principal, Counselors, a Social Worker, a Nurse, and a School Psychologist. The team monitors student performance and provides referrals to internal academic supports or psychoeducation groups. Information for locating community resources to support students with substance abuse or mental health is also available through the SST.

...There are great resources for parents and students on interesting topics relevant to today's teen on the LTHS website. Click on the Student Resources tab and select the Student Assistance Program webpage to take advantage of these resources.



Student Services Department Standards

Delivery of Student Services

The Student Services professional staff will...

- A. *coordinate all student services to ensure effectiveness*
- B. *emphasize the developmental, preventive, and educational characteristics of student services*
- C. *assess appropriate community resources and integrate them among existing student services*
- D. *utilize needs assessment measures as a component of a comprehensive and effective program*
- E. *emphasize evaluation as a critical component of a student services program and*
- F. *establish identification and utilization of internal resources as critical elements of an effective student services program*

School Counseling Service

The counseling staff will...

Academic Development

- A. assist students to acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and throughout their life spans
- B. assist students to complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of post-secondary options
- C. assist students to understand the relationship of academics to their future

Career Development

- A. assist students to acquire the skills to investigate career choices in relation to self-knowledge and current job trends
- B. assist students to understand the relationship between personal qualities, educational and training opportunities, and careers
- C. assist students to learn decision-making strategies for future career choices

Personal/Social Development

- A. assist students to acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others
 - B. assist students to make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals
 - C. assist students to apply effective problem-solving and conflict resolution skills to make safe and healthy choices
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School Social Work Service

Social workers will...

Direct Services

- A. evaluate student need for social work service and make recommendations as appropriate
- B. provide both short-term and long-term individual casework to both regular and special education students
- C. provide group work services to both regular and special education students
- D. provide crisis intervention to students, parents, and staff

Cooperative Services

- A. participate in conferences with teaching staff, parents, and other school specialists including counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, and school administrators
- B. coordinate and participate in multi-disciplinary staffings
- C. participate in the evaluation of students for special education placement, make recommendations as appropriate, and conduct social developmental studies
- D. provide supportive services to parents/guardians and families
- E. supervise social work interns
- F. consult with classroom teachers, counseling staff, paraprofessionals, and school administrators regarding student needs
- G. collaborate with school personnel in utilizing and providing in-school support programs for individual students

School-Community Relations Services

- A. serve as a liaison between school personnel, families, and community agencies
 - B. aid in the identification of students needing community-based, preventive social services
 - C. consult with community representatives in the identification, development, and delivery of appropriate support services
 - D. collaborate with community agencies in planning and delivery of crisis intervention services
 - E. collaborate with community agencies in planning and delivering intermediate and long-term support services
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School Health Service

The nursing staff will...

Standards of Care

- A. collect and analyze client data to assist in determining a plan of care/action utilizing current research
- B. assist in implementing the interventions identified in the plan of care/action and evaluate client outcomes

Standards of Professional Performance

- A. systematically evaluate the quality and effectiveness of school nursing practice
- B. acquire and maintain current knowledge and competency in school nursing practice
- C. collaborate with the student, family, school staff, administration, and health care providers in providing student care
- D. assist families, school staff, and administration to achieve optimal levels of wellness through appropriately designed and delivered health education

Counseling Services Each student at LT is assigned to a counselor on an alphabetical basis. There are three counselors at each grade level, and these counselors move to subsequent grade levels along with their assigned students. Counselors assist students with adjustment to the high school environment, personal and social decision-making, academic program development, and career and post-high school planning. Counselors offer both group and individual counseling services and provide all students with a planned, sequential four-year guidance curriculum through their academic class structure. Grade level Student Achievement Teams (S.A.T.) consisting of counselors, social worker, assistant principal, nurse, and psychologist meet weekly to review student progress and coordinate/recommend support services. There are also student support counselors at each campus. The SAT provides progress monitoring for Response to Intervention.

All students are exposed to a four-year sequence of group guidance activities characterized by the following themes: Self Awareness, Career Awareness, Career Exploration, Career Planning, and Placement. Counselor activities support state social-emotional learning standards.

Social Work Services School social workers play an important role in the delivery of a comprehensive program of Student Services to the LTHS student and parent community. The goal of social work services is to help students become aware of and manage their emotional lives in order to facilitate the learning process. LT's school social workers strive to meet this goal by providing

- individual and group counseling
- crisis management services
- classroom and parent presentations
- assessments for special education services
- faculty, staff, and parent consultation

The areas of attention and issues addressed by LT's social workers include the following: developing reflecting skills, self-advocacy, interpersonal relationships, group relationships, responsibility and decision-making, wellness, adolescent development, and life transitions.

LT social workers are also involved in prevention programs in the mainstream of our educational program. Social workers help facilitate such leadership programs as Peer Leaders, and minority student achievement programs groups. Our social workers are responsible for directing our grade level Student Achievement Teams, which are composed of counselors, nurses, and administrators, who meet on a weekly basis to address student needs. In addition, LT's social work staff provides consultation to parents and teachers as well as referral

to community mental health personnel in the areas of problem-solving, communication skills, and leadership development.

Parents who have specific concerns may make direct contact with school social workers through the Student Services office at both campuses. School personnel and students may also request services as needed and appropriate.

College/Career Center LTHS provides a comprehensive college and career planning service supervised and coordinated by the College/Career Coordinator. The College/Career Center is available for student use at North Campus providing student access to many up-to-date resources, both print and electronic, useful in planning and researching post-high school career and educational experiences. The College/Career Center also arranges for college admissions representatives and career speakers to visit LTHS to speak to interested students.

Classroom teachers are encouraged to bring in career speakers to speak to students about a variety of careers. Counselors encourage student career exploration through the group guidance program by identifying ways to use the web for career planning and college searching. Parent programs are presented at all grade levels to assist parents during high school and with the post high school planning process.

Health Services Lyons Township High School maintains a Health Office at each campus, staffed by a full-time school nurse and supported by an on-call physician. This office is responsible for maintaining all student health records, providing basic first aid care for students, and for providing consultation to students and parents regarding health-related issues and concerns. School nurses also conduct hearing and vision screening of all students with special education needs and transfer students entering grades 10-12. Vision screening is only a screening, not a substitute for a professional eye exam.

Student Support Teams and Support Counselors Lyons Township High School Student Services works with students, families, and community agencies to support students in need of assistance for personal, emotional, mental health, and substance concerns. Each student has a Student Support Team consisting of counselors, a social worker, an assistant principal, and a school psychologist. Students and parents can contact members of their team to support students needing assistance. In addition to the team, three Student Support Counselors also work with the four grade level teams to support the wellness of our students.