

Counselor Corner – September 2020

Hello Summit Families!

The school counseling team would like to welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year! This year is set to be one like no other and we want to make sure you and students feel comfortable entering the school year. As your student's school counselors at Summit Middle School, our counseling goals are to work with you and your child to ensure a successful middle school experience.

The various contacts with your child will include individual conferences and monthly counselor lessons during the course of the school year. Students may request to visit with their counselor by submitting a confidential counselor referral form using their iPads, sending an email or just stopping by and making an appointment.

School Counselors also help children by...

- Promoting positive attitudes among students towards self, family, peers, and community.
- Assisting students in learning how school performance relates to future opportunities.
- Developing and delivering classroom guidance lessons that teach skills, such as health decision making, resolving conflicts, and respecting others.
- Working collaboratively with students, parents, and teachers to identify and remove barriers to learning.
- Supporting students by teaching skills for achieving success.
- Helping students recognize and make the best of their abilities.
- Counseling with students individually and in groups.
- Providing support during personal crisis.
- Orienting new students.

How and Why do Parents Contact the School Counselor?

- Concerns over student achievement
- Family health problems
- New school orientation
- Discussing special needs of their child
- Early discussion of potential crisis
- Family difficulties or concerns that affect school performance
- Social and/or emotional concerns about their student

Below is a contact list of our counseling staff and student assignments:

Lauren Heston, 7th Grade: lauren.gallo-heston@johnston.k12.ia.us

Shannon Brock, 6th Grade: shannon.brock@johnston.k12.ia.us

We look forward to sharing an ongoing relationship that incorporates concerns and suggestions from you and your child to build confidence and ensure a successful school year! Please do not hesitate to contact the school counseling staff with any questions or concerns. Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year!