

NAVIGATING COUNSELING

A look into part of the counseling staff and program



A poster of where the 2024-25 graduating class is attending college

COUNSELOR DUTIES

Some tasks counselors manage as their role is primarily academic

- Apply **academic achievement strategies**
- Filling out **senior audits** to check if seniors are missing graduation requirements
- Making sure **all kids have classes**
- **Listening** to students and **guiding** them
- Assisting students in **postsecondary options**
- Verifying **all students have classes** before semesters begin
- **Schedule changes**

*according to the counseling staff and the American School Counseling Association

How available are counseling resources to students?



SUSAN FRITZMEIER
COUNSELOR

KIDS COME TO our office for all sorts of things. No one is in trouble when they're coming to the office, there is a wide variety of reasons. We want to encourage students to make appointments at any time. They can come to the counseling office to make an appointment with their counselor or social worker. We can typically see everyone within 24-48 hours. I think a student having a good relationship with a social worker or academic counselor is another supportive adult and is good to have.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to become a counselor?



TRACI YBARRA
COUNSELOR

YOU HAVE TO wear a lot of different hats. There's so many different duties and jobs. A lot of things may not even relate to counseling, they don't always relate to why you went into [counseling] in the first place. Everyday is going to look different. If you enjoy variety, it's a great fit.

WHO'S CALLING?

Bizarre questions counselors get asked that they aren't responsible for

- How much **chlorine** is in the pool?
- Can you **excuse** my kid for being sick?
- My computer is broken, can you **fix it**?
- **Where** do I get my **parking pass**?
- How do I get into **NHS**?

MEGAN STANDEFER
Former English teacher

TRACI YBARRA
17 years in elementary education

SUSAN FRITZMEIER
Family and Consumer Science teacher at Olathe North

MOTIVATION

Each counselor's previous job which got them interested in high school counseling

