

Hillcrest Intermediate School



School Counseling Program Grades 5 and 6

*Mrs. Victoria Dowling
Mr. Bob Conrad
Mrs. Amy Kerr, Secretary*

*Last names beginning with A-K
Last names beginning with L-Z
Telephone: 724-861-3015*

Extension 1508

Welcome to a new school year at Hillcrest Intermediate School! Throughout the school year the school counselors will be meeting with each student individually to enhance academic, social and personal development. Our goal is to help students identify their strengths and needs and provide them with the strategies necessary to become more successful learners. Some of the areas we may focus on include:

- *Improving study habits*
- *Providing opportunities for student growth and development*
- *Building positive peer relationships*
- *Introducing career exploration/planning*
- *Developing organizational skills*
- *Selecting/achieving goals*
- *Increasing student performance on local and state assessments*
- *Analyzing standardized test results with students*

We appreciate all of your support throughout the year. Please contact us if you have any questions and/or concerns.

How to see your counselor

Mrs. Dowling and Mr. Conrad will periodically call students to the counseling office to discuss their academic, social and personal goals.

The counselors are happy to see students throughout the day. However, it is important that the student notifies their teacher prior to coming to the guidance office.

We encourage parents to contact us if you would like us to see your child for any reason.

Homework

Homework is an essential part of your education. It is practice to help you learn. Each student is responsible for recording assignments in the agenda book provided at the beginning of each year by the Norwin School District. Parents should check the agenda book daily to reinforce what the teachers are teaching every day. In case of an absence, homework can be obtained by:

- **Requesting Homework**- Contact the main office or guidance secretary at (724-861-3015, ext. 1508) by 10:00 a.m. The secretaries will forward your message to the homeroom teacher. Sixth grade teachers will place a copy of the assignments and worksheets in the homework bin by their room. Parents are responsible for getting their students' books from their lockers. Fifth grade parents may pick up books and assignments in the main office after 3:10.
- **The Buddy System** - Get names and phone numbers of people on your team who are reliable for collecting homework you may have.
- **Family Access**- Locate your child's homework in the message center by selecting view messages next to each subject.

Having trouble with a subject

1. Keep track of your grades
2. Don't panic
3. Ask your teacher for help
4. Talk with your parents
5. Discuss your concerns with your counselor



Team Conferences

If you would like to discuss questions, concerns or share information regarding your child, please contact the counseling office to schedule a conference.

Grading

- Report Cards are computer generated and your grades will be in percentages
- Teacher comments will be numbers
- Report cards will be issued every 9 weeks
- Fifth and sixth grade will earn percentage grades for Literacy, Language Arts, Math, Social Studies/ Global Studies and Science
- Fifth and sixth grade will earn O, S, N and U grades for Health/ Physical Education, Art, Music/Band/Orchestra, Library and School Tools

Grading Scale

92-100 = A

82-91 = B

70 - 81 = C

60 - 69 = D

0 - 59 = F



O - Outstanding

S- Satisfactory

N- Needs Improvement

U- Unsatisfactory

Honor Roll

90 - 92.99 = Honors

93 - 95.99 = High Honors

96 - 100 = Excellent

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be mailed home at mid-grading period each nine weeks to students who are currently receiving 70% or below in any subject.

2009-2010 Testing Information

4- Sight Benchmark (test 1)

6th Grade Cognitive Abilities

4-Sight Benchmark (test 2)

4-Sight Benchmark (test 3)

5th and 6th Grade Reading and Math

5th Grade Writing PSSA

August 31 - September 9, 2009

October 22 - October 24, 2009

November 7 - November 15, 2009

March 1 - March 9, 2010

April 12 - April 16, 2010

April 20 - April 22, 2010

Family Access

Family Access is a secure internet based website that will allow you to easily view your child's attendance, grades, schedule, food service balance, progress, assignments, and emergency contact information. Family Access is a free service available to all parents with children enrolled in the Norwin School District.

***To use Family Access you must fill out and submit the registration form on the Norwin web page to receive you login information.** Additional forms are also available in the Hillcrest Guidance Office.*

e-NEST (Elementary Norwin Education Support Team)

The e-Nest program is a systematic approach to the identification of students who may be at risk due to academic, social and/or emotional concerns. The e-NEST program provides intervention and, if appropriate, referral of these students to internal or external support services. e-NEST is a caring group that strives to develop positive self-worth in Norwin students.

Additional information regarding the e-NEST program will be sent home.

