

1/27/2014

ECS Counselors

Beth Flynn-Lower School Counselor (412)247-242-1480 x413 or

beth.flynn@environmentalcharterschool.org

Andrea Szolna-Upper School Counselor (412)247-7970 x004 or

andrea.szolna@environmentalcharterschool.org

Counseling Services and Programs Highlighted:

Classroom lessons, Small groups, Fun Lunches and New Student Lunches, Individual student counseling sessions, Monthly counseling grade level meetings, Family referrals to community counseling agencies, Parent and/or team meetings/intervention discussions, Staff consultations, Classroom observations

NOTE: Counselors are NOT part of the discipline process or bully incident investigations, but are available to support students/staff as needed based on referral.

Programs and Plans Include:

Glade Run School Based Mental Health Partnership, Mentoring Program (several offerings-enrollment in Sept), Reading Buddies Program (enrollment in Sept.), High School Information Fair (Sept.), High School Parent Conferences(Sept.-Oct.), Mix It Up Day (Oct. 29), Veteran's Day Card Making/Service Learning and Tributes (Nov. 11-15), Stand Together, No Name Calling Week (Jan.) Parent Book Club (Feb. and March), Pay It Forward Week leading up to Earth Night (April 21-25), Career Day (June), Internet Safety Month (June)

Additional Counselor Responsibilities:

School counseling intern supervision, Student Assistance Program, Team Coordination, 504 Plan Meetings, ECS Systems Support, Student risk assessments, Supporting staff during student crisis, Tracking and supporting displaced students, School counseling program accountability, School counseling program management, Counseling-related professional development

and they are hosting a.....

PARENT BOOK CLUB: Inspired Discussion on Raising Happiness: 10 Simple Steps for more Joyful Kids and Happier Parents by Christine Carter Ph.D

When (tentative schedule): Fridays 2:30-3:30 from Feb. 21st-March 21st

Where Biddle's Escape (401 Biddle Ave. Pgh PA)

What to Expect Counselors will be leading discussion on the book with the goal of sharing ideas and reflections that will help parents instill happiness in themselves and their families through simple habits?

How to prepare? Buy/Check out the book! We will start with a reflection on the introduction and chapters 1 and 2. Any parents welcome regardless of whether you have read the book or not.

FOR MORE INFO. Visit the ECS School Counseling Website for additional information as parent resources and High School Transition info.

<https://ecscounseling.shutterfly.com>

Classroom guidance lessons are outlined here and there are tabs with relating articles

PCO Board of Trustees Report-Lya Laberge

PCO Board of Trustees Rep. position is coming up. Anyone welcome to put in a name. Person submits a letter of intent, resume upon request after time. This is a 2 year position.
SB1084-bill regarding institutions of higher learning that could be used by charter schools and ongoing discussions about how to write our support for this bill.

Renovations-Bids are out for summer renovations plan to finish the scope and sequence of initial proposed renovations. We are currently waiting on replies to the bidding and are 85 percent on the road to these renovations.

Finances are set and fiscal responsibility is sounds supporting further renovation process, etc.

ECS Administrative Update-Steve Pellathy

Steve and/or Tawana/Administrative team would like to be present at all PCO mtgs.
Steve emphasized the importance and talent of our counseling team as hands on and a resource for all students, families, faculty and staff at ECS.

Counselors support teachers and are very much a part of the leadership team

ECS 1st year for 8th graders moving up-requiring transcripts, recommendations, conf. with parents, options, etc.

Looping Highlight- Looping paid rich dividends with regards to transitioning in relative grade levels.

5th grade students are in contact with 8th grade students both formally and informally

ECS has had lots of visitors-the word is out there!

PPS Letter writing campaign getting letters to the board of trustees

Catalyst Project-Push to get parents behind a High School Nicole as contact person

Concern for safety of students with regards to texting outside of school-Steve talked about texts occurring late in the night/early morning where students are entering school having had harassment from peers, how do we deal with this? Technology contracts were brought up as a way to maintain positive student relations as well as continued education on internet safety and appropriate usage of technology.

Nominating Committee-contact Maria Cohen mariacohen31@gmail.com

E-mail nominations for Executive Com., all are welcome, names go into a hat and new members are drawn from those collected to serve on com. Meet 1/year to arrange PCO meetings, discuss school business, support community events, etc.

Mini-Grants- Erin Pierce

1 grant proposal is in-Kindergarten asking for raised beds and are waiting for more information on deadline.

2nd grade potential mini grant would like a sound system

February as possible deadline to wait on others/remind about

wish list items covered by minigrant (i.e. pencils, Kleenex, dry erase markers, etc.?)

Other

Blooming Bash upcoming, inform through Wed. Word and volunteers needed

8th grade trip to Washington, DC-talk of timeline for trip, fundraising to cover cost for students \$250/student. Possible bake sale on Ice Skating Day

Treasurer's Report-

Balance \$20,147.29-what is the buffer? Expenses: \$13,545.20 and Profits: \$2612.92 Loss:

Gingerbread event: \$188.88 (Fall Fest not on Profit List)