

# Guidance Orientation Information



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York Catholic Middle & High School provides counseling services for students in grades 7-12 regarding all social, emotional, and academic issues. Mrs. Loughman and Mrs. McShane are School Counselors from the Lincoln Intermediate Unit with offices here at York Catholic. They counsel students in grades 9-12. Mrs. Maurer is the counselor for grades 7 & 8, as well as for all out-of-state and international students in grades 7-12. Mr. Butler partners with the Guidance Team as the College & Career Advisor to ensure all students have a post-secondary plan. Please see your student's schedule to verify his or her assigned counselor. The counseling staff hopes to be a helping hand to both students and parents.

The following are some tips from the school counselors that may help you to have a productive year at York Catholic. Knowing where to go for help is important. The counselors' goals are to help each student grow as a whole person academically, personally, and socially.

## ACADEMICS

Grades are important as a measure of how students are learning. Grades achieved by the end of the first semester may determine course choices for the following school year. Failing two or more subjects in a week may make a student ineligible for an activity (see Student Handbook). If one or two academic subjects are failed for the school year, summer school is almost certain, at the family's expense. Students with three or more academic failures must be retained in the same grade (see Student Handbook). Students and parents should check the online Focus student information system often. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact your child's counselor.

If students need help in a certain subject, they should first ask their teacher. Waiting too long to seek assistance makes it more difficult to catch up. Teachers are here to help, but students need to make the first step. Students should use their agenda (Student Handbook), Focus, and Google Classroom daily to keep track of dates for assignments, tests, quizzes, projects, papers, and grades. Parents are encouraged to ask students daily about their school day to stay up to date on what is happening. Students should study at the same time every day. Routine is important.

## PERSONAL

Many students have occasional personal situations that create pressure and anxiety within themselves, which if not addressed can put them at risk for more serious problems later. Lack of self-confidence, poor grades, and emotional problems can occur if not dealt with appropriately. Short-term individual counseling services are made available for students in need who are not already receiving counseling outside of school.

The school counselors listen and try to help students make good choices in a confidential atmosphere. Students may request an appointment by contacting their counselor via email or face-to-face. They may also arrange a meeting by leaving a message in the main office.

Parents are one of the most integral parts of a child's academic success. Parents are invited to contact their student's counselor at the appropriate phone number or email address listed above. By working together we can ensure a successful educational experience here at York Catholic!