

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT



New Guidance Helpline! Counselors are available Monday through Thursday from 5-8 p.m. to answer questions about college entrance processes, graduation requirements, scholarships, homework tips, etc. The number is **727-547-7223**.

Ms. Thomas, Ms. McDonald and Ms. Carlson

The guidance counselors are committed to helping students in the academic, personal/social, and career realms and meeting the needs of a diverse population. At Oak Grove, the counselors follow their students from 6th through 8th grade. They feel this allows them to maintain strong relationships with students as they transition from grade to grade, thus enhancing academic, career, and developmental growth. Some of the duties of the counselors are orientation for new students; articulation with elementary and high schools; scheduling and registration of new students; conferencing with parents; individual and small group counseling and mediation; monitoring progress reports; coordinating standardized testing such as FCAT, PCCA, and NAEP; coordinating Doorways scholarships, mentoring, and tutoring; referrals to community agencies; career exploration; coordination with ESE, ESOL, and 504; and supporting the school wide discipline and Positive Behavior Support (PBS) plans. Please feel free to contact the counselors at **524-4430**:

Mrs. McDonald, 7th grade, ext. 2067

Mrs. Carlson, 6th grade, ext. 2066

Mrs. Thomas, 8th grade, ext. 2068

Frequently Asked Questions

**** How do I receive a copy of my child's transcript?**

Contact the Data Management Technician at your child's school.

**** Who should I talk to if I am concerned about a grade my child has received?**

You should first contact the teacher to determine how the grade was calculated. If you still have concerns, contact your child's grade level counselor or administrator.

**** How do I arrange counseling services for my child?**

Contact your child's school counselor. They can explain what services are available at the school or give you referrals to community resources.

**** How do I register my child for school?**

School assignment and registration information is available on the Pinellas County Schools website at

https://www.pcsb.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=41&Itemid=1038

**** How do I set up a parent conference?**

Parents should contact the grade-level clerk to arrange a conference with teacher(s).

**** Can I request a progress report between grading periods?**

Progress reports are administered mid-grading period. Before or after that time, parents may find this information on "Parent Portal".

**** How can I volunteer at my child's school?**

Contact the Family and Community Liason, Mrs. Nancy Mitchem at: 524-4430, ext. 2039.

**** My child is being bullied at school, who can I talk to?**

You should contact your child's school counselor, School Resource Officer, or the Violence Prevention Specialist at the middle schools. You can also report incidents at: http://crm.pcsb.org/sugarcrm/cache/generated_forms/bullyingandharassmentreport.html

**** How can I make arrangements to home school my child?**

You must register with the Home Schooling office at 588-5199.

** Who do I contact if I want my child evaluated for gifted, learning disabilities, etc.?

Your Child & Homework

Helping Your Child with Homework

Establish a routine

- * Make a schedule and stick to it.

- * Decide with your child the best time and place for doing homework. You may think the best time is right after school, but your child may want a break first and do homework after dinner.

- * Do homework at the same time every day. If your child is involved in after school activities, homework comes first! Since coaches sometimes change practice schedules from week to week, plan ahead to complete homework assignments.

Set up a study area

- * Do homework in the same place every day.
- * Find a place with proper lighting where your child is comfortable.
- * A desk or table; even the kitchen table can be used before or after dinner.
- * Help your child make a homework sign such as: "Genius at Work," "Creative Mind Center," or "Learning Place."
- * Post the sign when it is homework time. Add some personal items such as plants, pictures, or other things your child likes.

Homework survival kit

- * Get the supplies your child needs: pencils, eraser, pencil sharpener, paper, crayons, dictionary, scissors, glue, ruler, calculators, and other supplies.

* Keep supplies in a box near the study area.

Distractions! Distractions!

* Homework time needs to be a time when your child can concentrate. Work at reducing distractions and interruptions.

When to call the teacher?

* If your child is having a great deal of difficulty, schedule a conference with your child's teacher.

* The teacher may be unaware that your child is having trouble with the assignments.

* Together you can work out a plan for your child's success.

Time spent on homework

* A general rule of thumb for time to spend on homework at each grade is:

Grades K - 1 = 10 - 20 minutes

Grades 2 - 3 = 20 - 30 minutes

Grades 4 - 6 = 30 - 60 minutes

Grades 7 - 9 = 60 - 120 minutes

Grades 10 - 12 = 90 - 180 minutes

Homework Helpline

(727)547-7223

Secondary Programs of Study

Pinellas County Schools is committed to increased achievement for all students. In that spirit, this Secondary Programs of Study guidebook is intended to assist families with educational planning for students attending any of our high schools. If your student has an interest in any of our district's high school application programs, we have additional resources available that will be important for you to use in your planning as well. The

District Application Programs guide is produced annually and available through our website (www.pcsb.org) within the Department of Advanced Studies and Academic Excellence. It is important to note that advanced courses featured in this guide, and the opportunity to qualify as an AP

Scholar are also available to students who enroll in high school application programs.