



## **IDAHO SCHOOL COUNSELORS: COMMITTED TO SAFE SCHOOLS!**

Children learn best in safe, disciplined schools. School counselors make many contributions to promote safe, orderly schools where both student learning and positive student behavior flourish.

### ***School Counselors' contributions to safe schools include:***

#### **WITH STUDENTS**

- ♥ Provide group and individual counseling dealing with academic, career, personal, and social needs.
- ♥ Coordinate mentor programs available to all students to assist with academic and peer concerns. Peer helper or buddy systems help new/transfer students adjust to his/her new school.
- ♥ Facilitate programs that train students how to handle their anger and peer problems. For example, conflict resolution, peer mediation, and anger management.
- ♥ Conduct regular discussion groups on school district's code of student behavior and discipline.

#### **WITH PARENTS**

- ♥ Provide parents with resources and training on disciplining children nonviolently and working with strong-willed children.
- ♥ Have a referral system for parents/guardians seeking help with their children's behavior.

#### **WITH TEACHERS, THE SCHOOL, AND THE DISTRICT**

- ♥ Assist teachers and all staff with training needs in student behavior and discipline.
- ♥ Coordinate a school-wide program that promotes no tolerance for fighting, bullying, harassing, discriminating, or other unsafe, inequitable behaviors.
- ♥ Team with other student services' staff to develop an effective system of referral and assessment for students exhibiting troublesome behaviors.
- ♥ Serve on the School and District Crisis Response Teams.

#### **WITH THE COMMUNITY**

- ♥ Work with local children/youth advocate groups, especially those that address child abuse, sexual abuse, and domestic violence issues.
- ♥ Help create policies and programs that demonstrate a community who cares about its children.