



DPS Counseling Program

Mission Statement 2002-03

The Denver Public Schools offers a comprehensive, developmental school counseling program that strives to fulfill the three major goals of the district:

Goal 1: Set high expectations for students, parents, teachers and all staff of the Denver Public Schools and the community DPS serves

Goal 2: Improve the performance of all students

Goal 3: Close the gap between better-performing and more poorly performing students

To assist in achieving these goals, and in accordance with the National Model for School Counseling Programs, the primary mission of the Denver Public Schools counseling program is to promote and enhance the learning process for all students through integration of the following content areas:

- ✓ Academic development and achievement
- ✓ Personal/social development
- ✓ Career development

The Denver Public Schools Counseling Program serves equally all students regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, cultural background, sexual orientation, disability, family structure and functionality, socioeconomic status, learning ability level, language, level of school involvement or other special characteristics.

Our department, formerly the School-to-Career department, has expanded this year to include new responsibilities, and we also have a new name: **Counseling and Secondary Support Services, or CSSS.**

We'll still be coordinating career development services and opportunities, such as the ICAP (DPS's web-based educational planning tool), MESA (Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement), student opportunities to visit local businesses and teacher externships. In addition, our department will handle Counseling, ROTC, AP Courses, Post Secondary Options and a variety of additional secondary-level programs. We look forward to a great year!



Changes Ahead for Counseling Program

In line with our department's new focus on counseling, we are pleased to introduce our new Counseling Specialist, Lydia G. Hoague. See page 2 for biographical information on Lydia and two of our new counselors.

"The Denver Public Schools has 24 middle and 53 high school counselors all working exceptionally hard since the start of the school year," Lydia said.

"This year, counselors will be focusing on supporting the attainment of the district's goals with an emphasis on helping to raise academic achievement of all students," she added. "Secondly, we'll be creating a new counseling curriculum aligned with the National Model for School Counseling Programs. And thirdly, adherence to the Board of Education approved counseling programs will be stressed."

Lydia has identified four goals within her job description:

▲ **To provide support, advisement, professional development activities and direction to**

all middle and high school counselors. This will be achieved through a series of meetings, both individually and jointly, to address issues such as school procedures, job responsibilities, and ELA (English Language Acquisition) concerns.

▲ **To provide guidance and clarification in the interpretation of transcripts and credits** to administrators, records secretaries, Department of Technology services, outside agencies, alternative programs, other districts and even other countries.

▲ **To provide close coordination with the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association)** to ensure that district courses are listed accurately and to award appropriate credit to students.

▲ **To provide and coordinate information regarding the administration of the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Program** to parents, students, counselors and community.

Counseling Program

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▲ **To guide the revitalization of the existing counseling programs** through inservices and alignment of the curriculum with that of the National Model for School Counseling Programs.

“The year 2002-2003 will be a year of review, discussion, evaluation and change!” Lydia said. “We encourage everyone to read the new counseling program mission statement on page 1.”

Body Language

According to a classic UCLA study, only 7 percent of a message is communicated verbally (i.e., through words) while the remaining 93 percent is communicated nonverbally (38 percent through intonation and 55 percent through body language).

The CSSS News is published by the Denver Public Schools Counseling and Secondary Support Services Office, 770 Grant Street, Room 250, Denver, CO 80203. Phone 303-764-3843.



Call the CSSS Department for assistance with:

- Teacher Externships
- ICAP Training and Assistance
- Ideas and Assistance for Staff Development
- Business Connections and Resources
- Post Secondary Options
- Counseling
- Transcript and Credit Evaluation
- MESA
- NCAA Clearinghouse

Changes in Counseling Staff — People to Know!

We're pleased to introduce our new Counseling Specialist in the CSSS office, along with two of the seven school counselors who are new this year. (Profiles of the other new counselors will follow in future issues.)

Lydia G. Hoague Counseling Specialist

After teaching 9th -12th grade English for two years on the island of Oahu, Lydia began her career with DPS in September 1973. She was assigned as an English and Business teacher at Skinner for two years. Shortly after, she became the student advisor there for five years and in that position her love of counseling blossomed. After receiving her M.A. in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Colorado at Denver, she was assigned as one of the first counselors at Montbello High School when it opened in 1980.

After a two-year maternity leave, Lydia was assigned at Place Middle School as the 6th-8th grade counselor. After seven years at Place, she was recruited to work at South High School as the Senior and Post Graduate Counselor. Twelve years later, Lydia has come to the newly named CSSS department with big ambitions and with big challenges.

Lydia has a son, 23 and daughter, 20. Her husband of 30 years is a mechanical and energy engineer presently working for the Department of Energy. She enjoys going to the theater, reading by her pond, taking walks at Cherry Creek State Park, visiting new places and cooking, when time allows.

“This is my 29th year with Denver Public Schools and I'm still just as energetic and excited as ever,” she said, “especially with this new opportunity to guide the counselors into a new overall counseling plan.”

Justin Cantrell Counselor, South High School

Justin Cantrell grew up in Littleton, Colo., but considers Vermont home because of “lots of great memories and relatives.”

He graduated from Metropolitan State College of Denver with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in English, then attended the University of Colorado at Denver and earned an M.A. in Counseling Psychology and Counselor Education with an endorsement in School Counseling. He is a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC) and a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).

In his free time Justin enjoys playing guitar and bicycling.

“There's a big international population at South High,” he says. “I'm enjoying meeting with all the diverse students and learning about the different cultures.”

Maureen Dalton Counselor, Place Middle School

Maureen Dalton is originally from West Chester, Pennsylvania. She attended the University of Pittsburgh and earned a dual B.A. in Communications and Sociology in 1996. She moved to Colorado shortly after graduation and eventually began her graduate degree at the University of Colorado at Denver, completing an M.A. in Counseling Psychology in 2002.

Maureen worked in the corporate sector while she was in graduate school until last spring, and then started a full-time internship at Place Middle School, where she currently works. She has no children or pets but enjoys spending time with her nieces and nephews. She enjoys exercising and spending time in the outdoors in addition to reading and seeing friends.

“I'm really excited,” Maureen says about her new job. “It's my lifelong passion to work with youth. I feel fortunate to have found a job that really allows me to use my personal attributes, including sensitivity toward others and a subtle sense of humor.”

Teacher Externships

This year marks the seventh year of the Teacher Externship Program. This program allows teachers a unique opportunity to step out of their classrooms and into business and industry's world of work. Under this program the teacher's expenses are paid for the day and a substitute handles their classroom while they are gone.

An externship usually includes a tour of the workplace and an explanation of the skills and requirements necessary for various jobs. Sometimes the visiting teachers get to do some hands-on work. For example, on the last externship day, October 10, several teachers visiting the Colorado Division of Water traveled to a water storage site and took measurements and samples of water. Others assisted at the Belle Bonfils Blood Center.

The program has been hugely successful and hundreds of teachers have taken advantage of this opportunity. Here are a few things teachers are saying about their experiences:

- * It was really interesting. Who knew?!
- * Every subject area can be tied into DCPA (the Denver Center for the Performing Arts). It possesses materials and information that will captivate students' attention and exhibit why they need the skills they are getting in school.
- * There was a multitude of information that crossed so many disciplines. I gained a huge amount of respect for the Bonfils organization.
- * Thoroughly welcoming staff – great tour. Extremely informational for future opportunities for my school.
- * Provided great perspectives.



Four teachers on their externship to Bonfils Blood Center. Left to Right: Marti Page (Marrama Elem.), Brian Glander (West High), Matt Kaspar (Grant Ranch School), Russ Smith (South High).

- * I learned a great deal that I believe many other folks don't know.

Each time there are several options and you get to choose the one that interests you. The next externship will be November 21; watch your e-mail and fill out the registration.

Senior Planning Day at West High School

On Tuesday, October 15, the seniors at West High School participated in an event designed to help them get a head start on the college application process and career planning. While the juniors took the PSAT and the sophomores the PLAN, the seniors were treated to a motivational speaker, presentations, and workshops.

Mr. Craig Zablocki, a well-known Denver humorist and inspirational speaker with a fun and direct approach, engaged the students in exploring options for the future.

Sgt. Damon of the West High School Junior ROTC program presented the next portion. Lt. Col. Perry Roberts gave an overview of opportunities available through the ROTC program in college. Scholarships can cover most of the cost of college but do require an active-duty service commitment. SFC Joe Bishop and SFC Dave Calahan spoke about the Army National Guard's program

that allows students to serve their country on the weekends and have college paid for while staying in the metro area.

The financial aid and scholarship segment was presented by Marta Mata of Education Talent Search, a federal program that helps economically disadvantaged families access higher education.

Students then moved into the library and worked with representatives from the admissions department of several local colleges. Many completed applications that day!

Stacy Miller of the CSSS office helped more than 20 students complete a resume online using Pathfinder (ICAP).

Students used the time very productively. This collaborative effort of West High staff, district personnel, federal programs, and a great speaker made an impact on seniors that will be shared throughout the school.

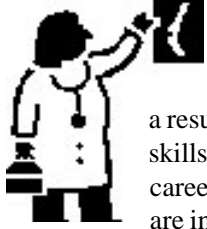
30th Annual Out-of-State College Night

The 30th annual Out-of-State College Night took place at Thomas Jefferson High School on October 10. This is an opportunity for Denver Public Schools parents and students to gain a tremendous amount of information about approximately 120 colleges from throughout the nation. On this night, parents and students have direct access to college admissions counselors who have a wealth of information regarding admission requirements, financial aid, special programs, college majors, and tuition and expenses. The program was also offered at Arvada West and Cherry Creek High Schools.

This yearly event is widely recognized by admission counselors to be one of the best in the nation. And they are always grateful for the organization and hospitality offered by the DPS counselors. See you there next year!

Career Education Center

The DPS's Career Education Center, located at 2650 Eliot Street, has 21 career programs that teach practical career skills with applied academics and serves over 700 part-time students. CEC has also a full-time Scholars Program in which approximately 190 students spend half their day in challenging academic classes and the other half in one of the 21 career programs.



In every career class, students are expected to develop a resume, stressing the skills required for the career fields in which they are interested.

Using the ICAP, we intend to empower students to develop resumes tailor-made for their needs. Students will be able to scan in original work, such as architectural drawings, graphic designs, photographs of culinary designs, photographic essays, certificates and licenses. The ICAP will assist students in developing a portfolio they can use in presentations to colleges, technical schools and employers.

DPS: An AVID District in the Making

AVID is another acronym, and it's a doozy: Advancement Via Individual Determination. It seemingly has no conflicts with other programs and mandates, such as QRI, CBLA, CSAP, ICAP, FBI or PDQ! Four DPS schools — Cole, Kunsmiller, Abe Lincoln, and Manual-Leadership — will implement AVID this year.

In addition to being a mouthful, AVID is a rigorous academic program that targets student in the middle. Many think attention to this population is long overdue. Students in 18 other states have been finding success for up to two decades using the AVID strategies. Among those strategies is a willingness to join the program.

Students and parents must volunteer to be a part of AVID to

demonstrate commitment. Students' schedules include one AVID class per day that equips them with learning skills, and as many accelerated classes as they choose. The belief is that many students can meet high expectations if placed in a rigorous academic context with the support necessary to reach their potential. A four-year college education is the ultimate goal.



The teachers, coordinators, and principals at these four DPS schools will be striving to fulfill the site plan developed this summer, and to be certified with all eleven AVID essentials by the second year.

The District AVID Director, Dr. Barb Nash, is currently recruiting students from Colorado universities to serve as tutors and role models twice a week at each school. Please notify her (303-918-0115) if you know interested college students, or if you would like further information about AVID. An implementation update will be provided periodically.

Making INROADS into Career Opportunities

INROADS began in 1970 as a vision inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. The late Father C. Carr founded the INROADS organization in Chicago to teach inner-city youth survival skills while helping them gain work experience. Carr's concept has evolved into the current INROADS model: multi-year, salaried internships with training in leadership and business. For three decades the INROADS internship process has increased business career opportunities and knowledge for outstanding ethnically diverse young people, who corporations the opportunity to develop diverse managerial talent. INROADS has



more than 900 corporate clients, 6,000 interns and over 13,000 graduates.

Two years ago the INROADS organization selected DPS as a national pilot to use their internship model with young people interested in being educators. These education internships allow outstanding students to have "hands-on" experience in the teaching field, and hopefully increase the number of talented young people who select teaching for their career.

This summer the DPS hosted three INROADS interns. Adriana Chavez, Elena Mendoza and Tanyka Quick worked for eight weeks learning about the realities of a classroom from a teacher's perspective.

Adriana Chavez, soon to be a college freshman, worked with elementary students at Centennial and in the Summer School office at 770 Grant. This was her first summer as an INROADS intern.

Elena and Tanyka, college juniors, returned for their second summer as paid interns. Both Elena and Tanyka taught middle school students in the Denver Summerbridge program at Kent Denver School. Tanyka and Elena team-taught a literacy class and in addition they each taught an elective class and helped with all the other necessary "teacher" activities. They contacted students, helped with homework, participated in all school meetings, worked with the Drill Team and on decoration committees. They experienced the joy and fatigue of long teaching days with DPS middle schoolers!

Denver Summerbridge is a year-round "students teaching students" program whose mission is also to increase educational opportunity for motivated middle school students and encourage talented high school and college students to pursue careers in education. Middle school students are provided six weeks of summer classes at Kent Denver School in math, literacy, science, and cultures at no cost. All 95 middle school students in the Summerbridge program are DPS students.

