

Student Services Update

October 3, 2022

Liz Doncaster, Director of Student Services

How do we Support Students and Staff?

The Student Services Department is focused on providing continuous support to all students in the areas of safety, physical health, mental health, and behavior management.

- Using Multi Tiered System of Supports(MTSS) model; specifically, the building based Student Support Team.
- The goal is for all students to feel safe, supported, mentally and physically prepared to access the curriculum at their optimum level.

SEL & Mental Health: Resources

- Counseling & Student Support Staff PK-12
 - SHS Community Team System and Supports
 - District-wide Social Workers
 - Full time intervention and Prevention counselor
 - Restorative Justice Training has begun
 - Student Support Teams are meeting 1 x per wk
 - During and after school counseling groups have started
- Embedded Counseling & Community Partnerships
 - Home for Little Wanderers
 - Riverside Community Care
 - Somerville Health & Human Services
 - Neighborhood Counseling & Community Services
 - Boston Children's Hospital
 - Second Step/research for new SEL curriculum has begun

SEL & Mental Health: Supports

- Becoming a Man: SHS, HEA, WH
- Working on Womanhood: SHS
- Mediation: Peer mediators being trained
- Restorative Circles
- Girls Groups
- Cambridge Health Alliance Teen Connection at SHS
- Professional Development for Staff: LGBTQIA, 504 training,
- LGBTQIA counselor
- 5 multilingual counselor interns at SHS
- Prevention and Intervention counselor office hours at SHS and NW/FC. Will start educational 6-8 assemblies in November

SEL/Mental Health Highlights:

Mediation:

*Two additional mediators hired, one Spanish speaking

*Since the start of SY22/23: Mediation Department has conducted 48 cases for mediation sessions, involving more than 100 students.

LGBTQIA Counselor

*Has begun work with students and families. Also, has facilitated Professional Development for Deans, Counselors and School Based Social Workers

School Based Social Workers:

*School Based Social Workers have begun taking on cases. In total as of currently this school year the social workers are meeting with 99 students individually. There are 17 groups being run with a total of 88 students.

Newcomer Seminar:

* Led by multi lingual adj counselor. Approx 36 students enrolled. Tutor and academic supports also available. Class block 1st/2nd quarter.

Student Support Data

A few additional data points on supports to students in 2022/23:

- In addition to in-school counseling and District-wide supports, our embedded counseling contracts have begun to serve students with individual counseling and in group settings.(Spanish and Portuguese Speaking counselors)
- Supervisors of Attendance have made more 80 than home visits this year for attendance, engagement, basic needs delivery, and safety.
- More than 22 staff trained this year in De-escalation.
- Boston Emergency Services Team(BEST) contacted: 13

Districtwide Attendance Poster Campaign

STARTING SEPTEMBER 12, 2022



POSTER CONTEST
ATTENDANCE

**GRADES
9-12**

Contest Guidelines

- Must encourage or promote school attendance & include at least three reasons why coming to school is important!
- All submissions must be in by October 11th. Winner will be announced on October 18th & receive a \$20 Target gift card.
- Submit to jlagreca@k12.somerville.ma.us

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