

# SCHOOL COUNSELING

## NEWSLETTER

### Important Dates:

**November 7<sup>th</sup>:**

Eighth Grade Pre-Registration Meetings begin

**November 8<sup>th</sup>:**

Parent/Teacher Conferences

**November 10<sup>th</sup>:**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Marking Period Ends

**November 16<sup>th</sup>:**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night

**December 8<sup>th</sup>:**

Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences

**December 16<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Progress Report Period Ends

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### WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to what will be another amazing year at Finley! The first few weeks of school here at Finley have flown by! It has been a pleasure to become acquainted with our incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders and re-acquainted with our 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

We have many counseling programs and activities planned for the 2016-2017 school year that will assist our students academically, personally and socially. School Counseling has changed over the past 25 years and we are excited for what the future holds for us and our students! Below you will find what we do each day to assist your children.

### What School Counselors do!

**Individual Counseling:** We meet regularly with students either through referrals or those initiated by us. This may include, but not limited to, weekly progress monitoring, social issues, or academic concerns.

**Group Counseling:** We run weekly groups for students on a variety of topics. These are groups intended for all students and topics covered include: new student welcome groups, anti-bullying/up standers, tween/teen issues, friendship, college/career readiness, and social skills.

**Career Counseling:** Beginning in November, we will be conducting "Career Cafes", as well as other career related events. These programs will expose students to a variety of vocational options, as well as help students begin to identify their own skills/interests that coincide with various career paths. Guidance Direct, our college and career search engine, will also be introduced so students can create resumes and take an interest inventory.

**Academic Counseling:** We meet with students to discuss their individual performance and assist students develop effective study habits and organization skills.

**Crisis Counseling:** School Counselors are an integral part of the mental health team, and work with students during unexpected/crisis situations.

**Leadership and Team Meetings:** Weekly meetings are conducted with teachers, administrators, students and parents to focus on individual student needs and interventions.

### Which Parent Are You?

“I got two A’s” the small boy cried.  
His voice was filled with glee.  
His father very bluntly asked,  
“Why didn’t you get three?”  
“Mom, I’ve got the dishes done,”  
The girl called from the door.  
Her mother very calmly said,  
“Did you sweep the floor?”  
“I’ve mowed the grass,” the tall boy  
said,  
And put the mower away.”  
His father asked him with a shrug,  
“Did you clean off the clay?”  
The Children in the house next door  
Seem happy and content.  
The same things happen over there,  
But this is how it went:  
“I got two A’s! The small boy cried.  
His voice was filled with glee,  
His father proudly said, “That’s great!  
I am glad you belong to me!”  
“Mom, I’ve got the dishes done,”  
The girl called from the door.  
Her mother smiled and softly said,  
“Each day I love you more.”  
“I’ve mowed the grass,” the tall boy  
said,  
“And put the mower away.”  
His father answered with much joy,  
“You’ve made my day happy!”  
Children deserve a little praise  
For tasks they’re asked to do...  
If they’re to lead a happy life,  
So much depends on you!  
~Author Unknown

## Keeping Your Child Motivated

*Several strategies from the National Association of School Psychologists. For the full article, visit [www.nasponline.org](http://www.nasponline.org):*

- Allow children ample time when working to allow for persistence.
- Respond to children’s needs in a consistent, predictable manner, but allow them to be as independent as possible
- Provide many opportunities for children and adults to explore together and interact directly.
- Provide situations that give children an acceptable challenge. Activities that are slightly difficult for the child will become more motivating and prove for stronger feelings of success when accomplished.
- Give children opportunities to evaluate their own accomplishments. Rather than stating that you think they have done a good job, ask them what they think of their work.
- Do not use excessive rewards. They tend to undermine children’s ability to value themselves.

### College Awareness we was held October 17<sup>th</sup> – October 21<sup>st</sup>. Finley students showed their college aspirations!

