

Dear parent(s)/guardian(s),

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year from your School Counselors! Please review the following information with your student to see everything that our School Counseling program has to offer during the 1st semester!

We are very excited to deepen the lifelong learning experiences of Bartram Trail students with the addition of a sixth school counselor! Please welcome Ms. Suzanne Patterson to BTHS! She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the school counseling team and students. School counselors will now partner to serve students across the grade levels as follows:

LAST NAMES	9 TH & 10 TH GRADE	11 TH & 12 TH GRADE
A-G	Ms. Aretha Graham	Ms. Julie Besley
H-O	Ms. Tami Treaster	Ms. Tanya Moseley
P-Z	Ms. Suzanne Patterson	Ms. Michelle Sterling

- Click on your counselor's name to send them an email.
- Location of the 9th & 10th grade school counselors is in the Ninth Grade Center, bottom floor behind the service desk.
- Location of the 11th & 12th grade school counselors is in the Main Guidance suite, bottom floor by the media center.

Student Appointment Time with School Counselors

- Students can visit school counselors during all lunches. This is an OPEN DOOR time for students to drop in, ask questions, and find solutions. Students can make appointments by stopping in during lunch, before school, or after school to complete an electronic appointment request.

Student Classroom Curriculum

- BTHS School Counselors provide students with guided opportunities in the classroom to review resources that support their growth toward meaningful academic and social choices. Students are encouraged to utilize a system of evaluating their individual academic progress and setting goals.
- **Seniors: September 24th-28th**
 - o **Have I Met the Requirements to Graduate High School?**
 - o Each senior will receive a customized credit analysis to take home.
- **Juniors: November 13th & 15th**
 - o **Why is My Junior Year Critical for Choices Beyond High School?**
 - o Each junior will receive credit details and consider important junior tasks related to college & career options.
- **Sophomores: September (end of)**
 - o **One Year Completed Toward Graduation, What to Consider for Year Two!**
 - o Sophomores will look at a snapshot picture of freshmen year and decide where to focus as a sophomore!
- **Freshmen: September (end of)**
 - o **Transitions and Connections: Setting Priorities for Success in High School.**
 - o Freshmen will learn best practices in making a successful year one in high school.

Parent Workshops

- When parents are aware of the educational objectives and supportive resources BTHS School Counselors offer students, families are better prepared to have meaningful conversations at home about academic choices, social learning goals, and how current educational decisions impact future employment opportunities. Please join us for Parent Workshops designed to inform you about the positive curriculum School Counselors are providing to BTHS students. Below are a few dates you won't want to miss!
 - o **September 25th @6:30 pm (BT Auditorium):** *From Grade Promotion to Graduation Day; The How To's of High School Success*
 - o **October 2nd @6:30 pm (BT Auditorium):** *Investing in Your Future; Financial Aid Updates for Senior Families*
 - o **October 4th @6:30 pm (BT Auditorium):** *FAFSA Lab for Parents of Seniors (assistance with completing the FAFSA)*
 - o **January 15th @6:30 pm (BT Auditorium):** *Rising to New Levels: The How and Why of Course Selections and Registrations for the 2019-20 School Year*

Counselors in the Courtyard

- Each month, School Counselors set up in the BTHS courtyard during lunches and meet with students where they are! *Counselor in the Courtyard* topics address Frequently Asked Questions and provide an informal opportunity for students to seek out information about community connections, resources, and tools for high school success. While enjoying the outdoor time, students can team up to play BTHS Corn Hole! First semester dates and themes include:
 - o **August 22:** WELCOME BACK, Get Connected
 - o **September 12:** HOW TO'S: Reading Interims, Signing up for ACT/SAT, Virtual Courses
 - o **September 19:** Dual Enrollment for College or Technical Credit (SJRState and FCTC)
 - o **October 17:** Financial Aid for College and Technical schools
 - o **November 14:** Home Access Center for Students- Make sure you are checking in!
 - o **November 28:** Community Service and Looking at the Holidays
 - o **December 12:** Taking Care of You

College Visits

- Counselors are currently scheduling college visits. Admission representatives from selected schools will visit campus to meet with junior and senior students during the school day beginning in September. Visiting schools are selected on a rotational basis but will include representatives from several of our twelve state universities in Florida, out-of-state schools, and Florida's twenty-two private colleges and universities. The BTHS College Visit program is reserved for junior and senior students. Students sign up in the guidance office as the visits are announced at school.

Additional Counselor Supported Programs

- **August 27th** – BTHS Open House
- **August 29th** – Club Fair during all lunches
- **September 5th** – District College and Career Night hosted at ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL in the evening
- **October 10th** – PSAT NMSQT Testing during the school day
- **October 13th** – National College Fair (NACAC), Prime Osborn Center, Jacksonville, FL
- **October 24th** – ASVAB Testing at BTHS – Early arrival to school required

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your School Counselor. Thank you for all you do for Bear Nation!