

Dear parent(s)/guardian(s),

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year from your School Counselors! Please read the following information to see everything that our School Counseling program has to offer!

School counselors help students focus on academic, career and social/emotional development so they achieve success in school and are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. School counselors' partner to serve students across the grade levels as follows:

LAST NAMES	9 <sup>TH</sup> & 10 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	11 <sup>TH</sup> & 12 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE
A-G	<a href="#">Ms. Aretha Graham</a>	<a href="#">Ms. Julie Besley</a>
H-O	<a href="#">Ms. Tami Treaster</a>	<a href="#">Ms. Tanya Moseley</a>
P-Z	<a href="#">Ms. Suzanne Patterson</a>	<a href="#">Ms. Michelle Sterling</a>

- Click on your counselor's name to send them an email.
- Location of the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade school counselors is in the Ninth Grade Center, bottom floor behind the service desk.
- Location of the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> 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 emailing counselors or stopping in during lunch, before school, or after school.

### 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. Classroom school counseling topics will include
- **SENIORS:**
  - o **September 19<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>**
    - Have I Met the Requirements to Graduate High School?
    - Each senior will receive a customized credit analysis to take home.
  - o **October 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup>**
    - Financial Aid Seminars
    - Each senior will be guided in completing the Florida Financial Aid Application
- **JUNIORS:**
  - o **September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**
    - How to research post-secondary institutions and attend college visit.
  - o **November 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>**
    - **Why is My Junior Year Critical for Choices Beyond High School?**
    - Each junior will receive credit details and consider important junior tasks related to college & career options.

- **SOPHOMORES:**
  - **September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**
    - One Year Completed Toward Graduation, What to Consider for Year Two!
    - Sophomores will look at a snapshot picture of freshmen year and decide where to focus as a sophomore!
  - **November 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 15<sup>th</sup>**
    - Students will learn about the many paths they can take after high school
    - Students will complete a career interest inventory
  - **January 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup>**
    - What to know about the Bright Futures GPA requirement
    - How to find scholarships
  
- **FRESHMEN:**
  - **September 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>**
    - Learning about high school graduation requirements
    - Why GPA's are important
  - **October 4<sup>th</sup>**
    - Transitions and Connections: Setting Priorities for Success in High School.
    - Freshmen will learn best practices in making a successful year one in high school.
  - **November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>**
    - What to know about the Bright Futures GPA requirement
    - How to find scholarships
  - **January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>**
    - Students will learn how to read their credit detail report and review GPA

## 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!
  - **September 30<sup>th</sup> @6:30 pm (BT Auditorium):** *From Grade Promotion to Graduation Day; The How To's of High School Success*
  - **January 27<sup>th</sup> @6:30 pm (BT Auditorium):** *Rising to New Levels: The How and Why of Course Selections and Registrations for the 2020-21 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 28:** WELCOME NEW STUDENTS, Get Connected
  - o **September 18:** First Coast Technical College and Career Exploration
  - o **October 23:** United Against Bullying
  - o **November 20:** Wellness and Stress-Less Living
  - o **December 11:** Community Service

## 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 26<sup>th</sup>** – BTHS Open House
- **September 4<sup>th</sup>** – District College and Career Fair hosted at BARTRAM TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL in the evening
- **September 6<sup>th</sup>** – Club Fair during all lunches
- **October 10<sup>th</sup>** – FAFSA Frenzy 6:00 P.M. @St. Johns River State College Orange Park Campus
- **October 12<sup>th</sup>** – National College Fair (NACAC), Prime Osborn Center, Jacksonville, FL
- **October 16<sup>th</sup>** – PSAT NMSQT Testing during the school day
- **October 17<sup>th</sup>** – FAFSA Frenzy 6:00 P.M. @St. Johns River State College St. Augustine Campus
- **October 24<sup>th</sup>** – FAFSA Frenzy 6:00 P.M. @St. Johns River State College Palatka Campus
- **March 4<sup>th</sup>** –College and Career Fair for students during the school day

We look forward to serving your student during the 2019-2020 school year. If you have any further questions, please email your assigned school counselor.

Thank you for all you do for Bear Nation!