

## INSTRUCTION

File: IJ-R

### GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING PROGRAM

1. CCS shall promote a comprehensive school-counseling program that encompasses the expectations of the Virginia Board of Education's Standards of Learning for Guidance and Counseling. These standards include Academic, Career and Personal/Social Standards for each grade level.
2. The school-counseling program shall blend the standards with the total school program and shall be a collaborative effort with all staff members.
3. At least annually, parents shall be notified in writing about the academic and career guidance programs, and the personal/social counseling programs which are available to students within the school division.
4. Parents shall be advised concerning the purpose, general description of the programs, how parents may review materials to be used in the programs, and procedures by which parents may limit the students' participation in the program.
5. Information and records of personal/social counseling shall be kept confidential and separate and not disclosed to third parties without prior parental consent or as otherwise provided by law.
6. Parents shall notify the school counselor in writing if the student is not to participate in the personal/social counseling program (Opt-Out). The student will be expected to participate in the program without an opt-out form.
7. Counseling techniques which are beyond the scope of the professional certification or training of counselors, including hypnosis, or other psychotherapeutic techniques that are normally employed in medical or clinical settings and focus on mental illness or psychopathology are prohibited.
8. Notification about the Guidance and Counseling Program will be included in the Parent Information Guide distributed to all families at the opening of school.

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Legal Reference: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, sections 22.1-209,  
8 VAC 20-620-10

Cross Reference: JO Student Records