



Transformation of the Role of School Guidance and Counseling – A Shift in Focus

- Comprehensive school guidance and counseling is not "business as usual" for most schools and districts. A comprehensive school guidance and counseling approach shifts the focus from the position (counselors) to the program (system). This document summarizes the necessary transformation of the role of counseling that must occur to successfully adopt a comprehensive school guidance and counseling program.
- For the best resource for standards and implementation guidelines, Oregon school personnel should refer to Oregon's Framework for Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs (2003) (http://www.ode.state.or.us/teachlearn/certificates/cam/pdfs/orframe/oregonframework-cgcp.pdf).
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From INDIVIDUAL FOCUS	To SYSTEMIC FOCUS
Works Only with Individual Student	Works to Make Systemic Change that
Problems	Benefits All Students
 Involved Mostly with School Counseling Activities 	 Involved Extensively as a Leader in School Reform
 Primary Focus on Personal/Social Concerns 	 Focus on Learning, Achievement and Supporting Student Success
Ancillary Support Personnel	Integral Members of Educational Team
Loosely Defined Role and Responsibility	 Connect School Counseling to the New Mission of Schools
Record Keepers	Use of Data to Effect Change
 Sorters, Selectors in Course Placement Process 	 Advocates for Inclusion in Rigorous Preparation for All—Especially Poor Students and Students of Color
Works in Isolation	 Teams and Collaborates with All Stakeholders
Guardians of the Status Quo	 Agents for Change, Especially for Education Access and Equity for All Students
Involvement Primarily with Students	 Involvement with Students, Parents, Education Professionals, Community, Community Agencies

Transformation of the Role of School Guidance and Counseling – A Shift in Focus, continued

From INDIVIDUAL FOCUS	To SYSTEMIC FOCUS
Little or No Accountability	 Accountable for Student Success, Use of Data, Planning and Preparation for Access Wide Range of Post Secondary Options
 Dependence on Use of System's Resources for Helping Students and Families 	 Brokers of Services for Parents and Students from Community Resources/Agencies as Well as School System's Resources
 Post Secondary Planners with Interested Students 	 Champions for Creating Pathways for All Students to Achieve High Aspirations