What does the counselor do?

- **Helps** create a safe school environment where children can learn
- **Promotes** positive attitudes among students toward self, family, peers and community
- **Assists** students in learning how school performance relates to future opportunities
- **Supports** students by teaching skills for achieving success
- **Counsels** students individually and in groups
- **Works** with students on attendance issues
- **Coordinates** referrals to outside agencies
- **Helps** design interventions to enhance student success
- **Facilitates** conflict resolution and mediation skills and helps students learn about anger management, social skills, organization, friendship and bullying
- **Provides** assistance to parents, teachers and administrators, on various topics, relationships, and information to help the student

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**CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT**

The information students share with the counselor is private and kept confidential. There are exceptions or conditions when the counselor must break confidentiality: * If the counselor believes the student presents a danger to self or others. * If the counselor believes the student is in danger. * If the counselor believes she needs to consult with someone else to help the student.

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**PLEASE NOTE THAT COUNSELING IN THE SCHOOL SETTING IS BRIEF IN NATURE. THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR IS AVAILABLE TO COORDINATE A REFERRAL TO A COMMUNITY AGENCY IF THERAPY IS INDICATED OR DESIRED.**

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**PMS Student Services Team:**

- Mrs. Wenke/ School Counselor
- Mrs. Fitzgerald/ School Counselor
- Mrs. Dillivan/School Psychologist
- Mrs. Schuler/ School Nurse
- Mrs. Sessions/ Student Services Secretary
- Mrs. Peterson/ Data Clerk

We are located upstairs in the 8th grade hall

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**Powell Middle School Counseling Department**

All Powell Middle School students will be provided with a positive, safe, and inclusive school environment.
How and Why do Parents Contact the School Counselor?

There are many reasons to contact your school counselor:

- New school registration
- School orientation
- Concerns about student achievement
- Peer conflict
- Family and or Student health concerns
- MAP/PAWS questions
- Scheduling questions
- Test anxiety or preparation
- Family difficulties or concerns
- 504 plans
- Discussing special needs of their child
- Early discussion of potential crisis
- Previous history you feel may be beneficial for the counselors to know
- Set up a meeting with the counselor
- Parent education

How Does a Student see the Counselor?

Come to Student Services and make an appointment

Ask your teacher if you can talk to counselor

Email your school counselors

Parent, teacher or friend request

School Counselors Can Help in many Situations

"I have a hard time concentrating at school when I fight with my mom"

"I am having a hard time making friends"

"When it is lunch time, I don't know where to sit"

"I'm nervous about asking my teachers questions"

"There is so much drama with my friends and I don't know what to do"

"I am being bullied"

"It is really hard to stay organized and I cannot focus"

"Me and my parents argue about homework"

"I have questions about my future and what I want to do when I grow up"

"My pet died and I am really sad"

Am I in trouble if I see the Counselor?

Mrs. Wenke and Mrs. Fitzgerald are not the disciplinarians. A counselor is an adult who acts as your advocate! An advocate is someone who wants to listen to what you have to say and help you come up with some solutions. It doesn't mean that Mrs. Wenke or Mrs. Fitzgerald can solve the problem for you; it does mean that you have a safe place that you can go to when you aren't sure what to do.

Counseling Help

The School Counselor is