

GEORGE C. MARSHALL STUDENT SERVICES

January 7, 2020

2019-20 STUDENT SERVICES TEAM

Director of Student Services: Cindy Blakeley

School Counselors

Mindy James (A-Bn)

Jim Rixse (Bo-Dud)

Doug Sawitzky (Due-Ha)

Cara Engel (Hb-La)

Katy Sokolove (Lb-Mum)

Josh Peters (Mun-Reb)

Alex Breiner (Rec-Sr)

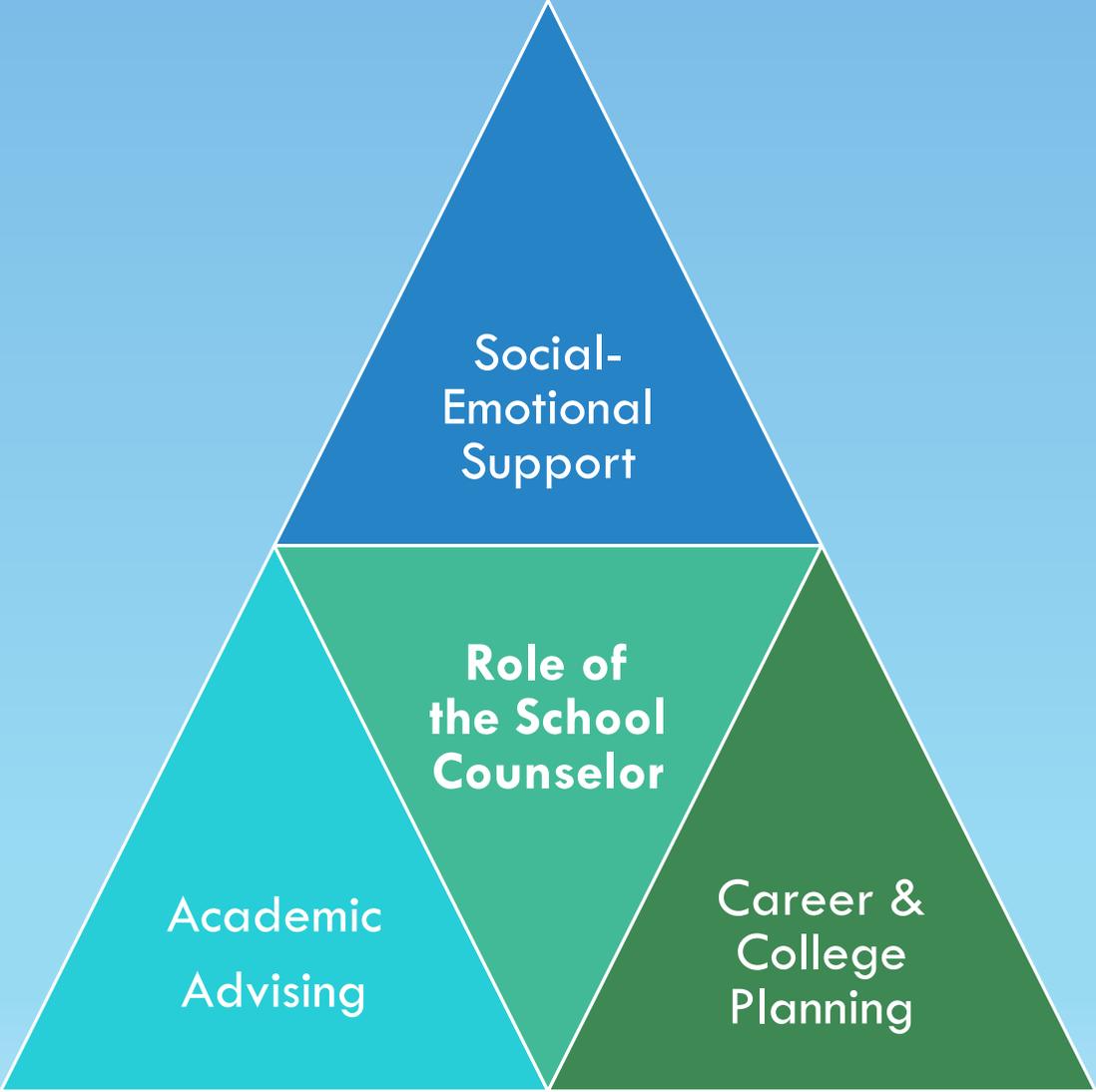
Jenna Mollura (SS-Z)

College & Career Center Specialist: Gardner Humphreys

School Psychologist: Amy Stark

School Social Worker: Katie Purkert

Parent Liaisons: Audrey Meza



9TH GRADE PROGRAMMING

Social & Emotional Support

Wellness
Screening through
HPE 9

Freshman
Transition Program
(FTP)

Freshman Retreat
(PSAT Day)

Academic Advising

Course
Registration
Overview (through
math classes)

Individual
Advising Session

Schedule Changes
as needed

Career/College Planning

Academy Course
Advising

Naviance Interest
Inventories

OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC ADVISING PROCESS

1. Course Kick-Off – Students will be able to visit 3 different courses to learn more about the specifics of a core class or elective
2. Teachers will provide recommendations to students regarding placement.
3. Counselors will facilitate a classroom lesson through math providing instruction on diploma options, course sequencing, balance, and “how to” register online.
4. Counselors meet individually with students via their Science class on a pre-scheduled day. Counselors work with students to make sure that the 7 selected classes, and 3 alternatives make sense. We will discuss dreams, interests, rigor, recommendations, and balance. Once classes are entered, parents can view selections. At this time, parents are welcome to ask questions or suggest changes.
5. All changes to course selections should be complete by . Changes requested after that date are granted based on seat availability.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the difference between an advanced diploma and a standard diploma?

A: While there are some additional differences, the advanced diploma requires world language (3 years of 1 language, or 2 years of one language and 2 years of another language), and 4 years of social studies, science, and math. The standard diploma requires NO world language, 3 years of social studies, science, and math, sequential elective, and the passing of a Career and Tech Ed certification exam (most frequently earned by passing the WISE which is administered during Econ and Personal Finance).

Q: How will the counselor know what diploma type my student is working towards?

A: This is part of the conversation we have with students. Typically, we assume most students in a world language are working towards an advanced diploma. If a student makes a decision that would change their diploma type, we will let them know.

Q: Why are there 2 different diplomas?

A: FCPS created the advanced and standard diploma to help ensure that students are meeting their post graduate goals. The advanced diploma course sequence ensures that students are taking the minimum requirements for ALL VA public colleges. Many of the most selective schools will be looking for more than the minimums set forth by the advanced diploma. The standard diploma can still help prepare a student for many colleges, but it also creates the space for a student to be ready to move into the world of work. Some world language is important to most colleges, but they do not always require 3 years. If you are curious, you can look at individual college websites to see what they require.

For more information about diplomas, please see the county website: <https://www.fcps.edu/graduation-requirements-and-course-planning/first-time-ninth-2018-19>

FINAL THOUGHTS

The best way to reach your counselor is through email. If you don't receive a response in 48 hours, please re-send your original email. All emails should receive a response.

Students are always welcome to stop by, but scheduling an appointment may save your student time and stress. Parents should always schedule an appointment.

The Marshall Student Services is a group of committed professionals who care about your students. We strive to facilitate a positive high school experience for each one of our students.