Judson ISD Professional school counselors:

- Hold a Master’s degree in counseling
- Have a minimum of two years of teaching experience
- Are certified in School Counseling through the Texas Education Agency
- Continually cultivate their skills by attending workshops & conferences, completing proficiency modules, and completing continuing education units.
Professional School Counselors

In Judson ISD:
- Each elementary campus has a certified school counselor
- Each middle school has three counselors
- Each high school campus maintains a ratio of no more than 460 to 1
- Some campuses also have a Licensed Professional social worker
Judson ISD Guidance and Counseling: a Comprehensive, Developmental Guidance & Counseling Program

The counselors primary focus is to facilitate instruction by removing impediments to student learning. It is developmental by design and includes sequential activities organized and implemented by certified school counselors with the support of teachers, administrators, students, and parents.
What we do

- The Department of Guidance and Counseling will work with all students to develop and establish social, personal, and academic goals in order to gain confidence towards achieving personal success.
What services do school counselors provide?

- Guidance Curriculum
- Individual Planning
- Responsive Services
- System Support
Guidance Curriculum

- Standards based
  - Academic Achievement
  - Career Exploration
  - Personal/Social Growth
- Developmentally appropriate for Pre K–12
- Tied to the school improvement plan
- Can be cross-walked with teacher standards
- Delivered through
  - Classroom Guidance Lessons
  - Group Activities
Individual Planning

Ongoing systemic activities to assist students individually in establishing personal goals and developing future plans

Examples:

- Advisement
- Annual Parent Conferences
- Portfolios
Activities to meet students’ **immediate** needs:

- Individual Counseling
- Small Group Counseling
- Crisis Intervention
- Agency Referrals
- Consultation
- Peer Facilitation
System Support

Management activities that establish, maintain, and enhance the total school counseling program such as:

- Professional Development
- Consultation
- Community Outreach
- Advisory Councils
- District Committees
Equity and Access for ALL Students

Classroom Guidance

Intentional Guidance

Individual Support

Specialized Interventions

Responsive Services

Individual Student Planning

Guidance Curriculum

Intentional Guidance

Classroom Guidance

School Improvement

Gail M. Smith (2009)
Through Guidance Curriculum and Individual planning a Professional School Counselor must address the “Texas 7”:

1. Self Confidence Development
2. Motivation to achieve
3. Decision making, goal setting, planning, and problem solving skills
4. Interpersonal effectiveness
5. Communication skills
6. Cross cultural effectiveness
7. Responsible behavior
Additional support offered

- Divorce/Separation
- Self-Control, self-expression or Self-Esteem
- Grief, Anxiety, or Fears
- Anger Management
- Communication skills and Responsible behavior
- Cross cultural effectiveness
- Friendships and peer relationships
- Physical concerns; Bullying
- Transitions
- Strategies to balance ADD/ADHD
Ways to see the Counselor

- Call or email for an appointment
- Self-referral
- Request from the Counselor
- Parent referral/request
- Administrative referral
- Teacher or other Staff referral
- Referral by friend
- Invitation to small group
- Classroom Guidance
How we can support you

- Promoting positive attitudes
- Discussing feelings and appropriate forms of communication
- Meeting with children individually and in small groups
- Suggesting ways to improve academic and behavioral performance
- Creating and reviewing current and post-secondary plans; Career education
- Gauging school climate and needs of student support on campus
- Creating leadership development
- Linking to community resources/agencies
- Evaluating peer relationships
- Creating networking opportunities
- Meeting with students, parents and/or providing support at parent/teacher conferences
Programs used in Judson ISD

- Kimochis
- Second STEP
- Trevor Romain
- Why Try
- Career Cruising
- And other individually developed lessons
Kimochis
Kimochis are designed to help students develop the skills to understand their feelings, peacefully communicate feelings to others, develop positive relationships, manage conflict and challenges nonviolently, and make and keep friends.
Introducing the *Second Step* Program!

It is a universal, classroom-based program designed to:

- Increase students' school success
- Decrease problem behaviors
- Promote social-emotional competence and self-regulation
Second STEP

- Developed by the Committee for Children
- 3 units:
  - Empathy and skills for Learning
  - Emotion Management
  - Problem Solving
Services Provided at:

- Contact campus for additional information on services/programs offered
What can a comprehensive school counseling program mean for students?

- Increased Student Achievement
- Reduced Discipline Referrals
- Improved Attendance
- Higher Graduation Rates
- Lower Retention Rates
Professional School Counselors are required to conduct needs assessments (Student, Parents and Staff)

Assessments will allow for the Professional School Counselor to develop the campus Comprehensive and Developmental Guidance Program priorities based on the findings

STUDENT PERSONAL NEEDS SURVEY
Middle School

Check the topics of most interest to you.

1. I need help in:
   - Developing the best personality I can
   - Understanding and liking myself better
   - Developing self-confidence
   - Changing a particular behavior
   - No help needed in the above areas

2. I have thought about my plans for high school:
   - I plan on taking high school credit classes in middle school
   - I plan on being involved with different clubs and organizations
   - I have taken on the responsibility to learn more about opportunities available in high school
   - I have identified career opportunities that will allow me to fulfill my goals
   - No help needed in the above areas

3. When faced with a problem I…….
   - Know who I can trust that will help me
   - Know where I can go to get help with the situation
   - Develop a plan of action to address the problem
   - Make good decisions on how to solve the problems
   - No help needed in the above areas

4. I need help with:
   - Making and keeping friends with people my age
   - Getting along with people who are different from me
   - Learning to tell others how I feel
   - Discussing personal problems and keeping confidences
   - No help needed in the above areas
Coffee with the Counselor

- To increase parent engagement and participation

Interested in learning practical ideas to support the development of your child? Interested in learning about the current trends and hot topics in schools? Then join us for this fabulous chat with the counselor!

Coffee with the Counselor is a monthly program designed to provide a casual environment for parents and counselors to get together and engage in discussions related to what our students are going through. Every month there will be a topic that will be discussed however there will be time set aside for a question and answer session.

Save the dates: Schedule for Upcoming events
- Wednesday September 10th
- Wednesday November 12th
- Wednesday January 14th
- Wednesday March 18th
- Wednesday May 13th

*Coffee and water will be served. Bring your favorite cup.

Topics may include:
- Welcome to the campus – knowing the ins and outs of the school – parent center – programs available. Introduction to the Comprehensive and Developmental Guidance Program.
- How can I tell the difference between bullying and conflict? What can I do?
- End of the semester preparation. What a parent can do to support their child.
- Preparation for registration and course selection. My child is moving to the next grade level/campus, preparation and transition plans.
- Postsecondary Awareness
- The social media lingo – The periodic table of texting
- To high school and beyond – it’s never too early to plan for high school and beyond. What is the difference between honors, AP, electives? Please attend this workshop where we will explain the language of middle school, high school and college. We will share resources to help you guide your child through high school and beyond.

JUDSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT: DEPARTMENT OF GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING