

Special Student Services

School Counsellor

Students who need help or someone to talk to can approach Ms. Funk at any time. Students may be referred to other professionals for further assistance. The school counsellor also provides information and guidance in the areas of course selection, career choice, university entrance requirements and scholarship availability.

Student concerns are kept strictly confidential unless there are concerns for the safety of the student or others. Parents, staff or students with guidance related concerns should feel free at any time to contact the principals who will see that the best possible care will be given to the student in need.

The principals can refer any student to the appropriate professional for consultation or diagnosis.

Hanover School Division Services

The Student Services team provides a variety of clinical and consultative services to students, their teachers, and their families. These services are intended to assist in making the school experience of every referred student as successful as possible. Services available include a speech language pathologist, a psychologist, a social worker and an occupational therapist. The Assistant Superintendent of Student Services monitors and co-ordinates the various services provided by clinicians and educational consultants.

Once a student concern is identified that goes beyond the normal supports provided by the school, a meeting is initiated by the school. This meeting typically includes the classroom teacher, resource teacher, the appropriate Student Services personnel, and the parents. Guidance counsellors or school principals may also initiate referrals in this manner. Common concerns are discussed and a plan is developed. This may involve additional members from the Student Services team if necessary.

This assistance plan begins only after the parents of the student agree to the process, and provide written consent. After working with the student, a report of the results will be discussed with the parents. The type and severity of the concern determine the length of time the plan continues.

Learning Support

The learning support teacher, Mr Jones is available to help any student in grades 7–12 who needs assistance in attaining the basic skills necessary to achieve success. Individual and small group help are offered in gaining basic skills in studying, reading, writing, and mathematics. Times and locations for service vary depending on the type of assistance required. Services might include computer-assisted instruction, pre- or re-teaching of concepts taught in class, assessment preparations and/or assessment assistance.

Where warranted, the learning support teacher may administer tests to help diagnose a student's learning ability and skills, and if necessary, refer the student to a divisional clinician for further assessment or assistance, such as counselling or speech therapy.

The learning support teacher will also assist in adjusting and monitoring programs for students with special needs. The program adjustment will be based on recommendations from teachers and other specialized personnel in order to best accommodate the needs of the particular student.

Students are referred to the learning support teacher by subject area teachers, school counsellor and the principal. Students experiencing difficulty with their courses may also request the help of the learning support teacher by submitting an assistance request form, available in the Learning Support Department.