

McKinley Elementary School



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Appleton, WI 54915

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Principal: Andrea Vinje

Dean of Students: Donald Ryane

School Counselor: Lori Smestad

Grade Levels: K-6 2015 Enrollment: 540

Appleton Area School District

Wisconsin School Counseling Program Accountability Report 2015

A continuous improvement document sponsored by the Wisconsin School Counselor Association

Principle's Comments

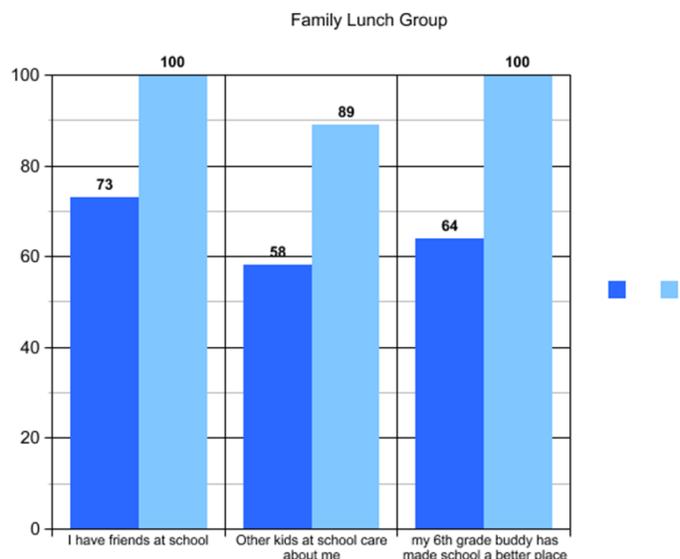
The Wisconsin School Counseling Program Accountability Report is fully endorsed by the entire McKinley Elementary School Community. The school's 540 student body is made up of K-6 students and includes the districts Newcomer Elementary Program along with the Early Childhood Special Education Program. McKinley Elementary is known for our diverse population, welcoming climate, academic rigor and positive culture. Our entire staff and community work together to ensure an environment where students are continually challenged to reach their full academic, social and emotional potential. The comprehensive school counseling program is delivered by one school counselor at McKinley Elementary School, who works collaboratively with all of our staff, parents and outside agencies to make a difference for our students.

The school counseling program delivers curriculum based on WSCA guidelines. Throughout this curriculum students are introduced to career based learning. K-6 this programming explores chores at home for our kindergarten students following up with options after graduation and Xello with our 6th grade students. Students are challenged to think beyond today, to set goals and strive to be the best person they can be. Our school counseling program is an integral component of our school's climate and culture: safety, advocacy and growth mindset. It makes a positive impact!

School Climate and Safety

The McKinley School Counseling Program recognizes that early intervention, clear instruction in behavior, along with a positive

The counseling program at McKinley is dedicated to presenting all curricular lessons to fidelity. The SCP is in each classroom every week, whether that is a large or small group. Along with the SCP curricular lessons the school counselor is also very involved in the tiered process of the PBIS framework. One aspect of the PBIS program at McKinley is the social skills programming that occurs each week. On the last week of each month the social skills lesson consists of our 4th-6th grade classrooms being matched with a classroom in the K-3 level. We call this our buddy program. The buddy program has evolved over the years but was created to match younger students with older kids to create a positive relationship and make new connections at school. Students in one 2nd grade class meets with their 6th buddies monthly, during social skills time, but also for a reading and writing unit. This class was given a pre/post assessment that looked at connectedness at school. The results were amazing!



Student Results

School Counseling curriculum is based on both ASCA (American School Counselor Association) and WCSCM (Wisconsin Comprehensive School Counseling Model). These resources help to ensure that students are receiving a thought-provoking, stimulating, and state-accepted education. These resources also guarantee that the lessons taught are both genuine and effective. School Counselors evaluate data in three different curricular areas; personal/social, career and academic. These subjects are taught in large group classroom sessions, small groups, as well as working with students 1:1. Small groups can consist of curriculum-driven materials or data-focused groups.

Student Results

Academic

ASCA

A:A3.1 Take responsibility for their actions

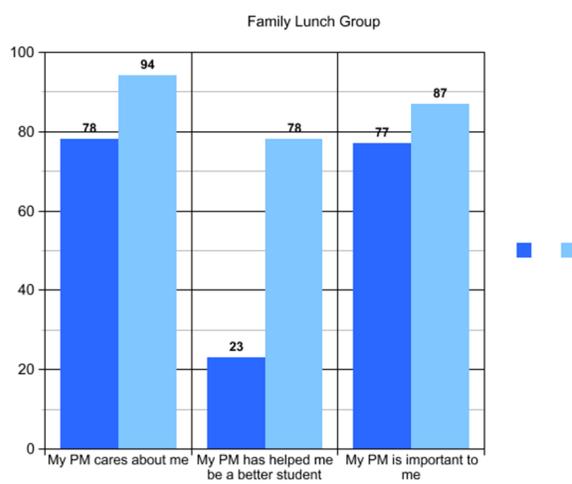
A:A3.4 Demonstrate dependability, productivity and initiative

WCSCM

A.4.1.3 Recognize and accept mistakes as essential to the learning process

WCSCM A.2: Acquire the skills for improving effectiveness as a learner.

The peer mentor program was created by the school counselor to meet the needs of younger students who may struggle with making poor choices, having positive relationships with their peers as well as social skills in general. Last year a pre/post assessment was given to the mentees participating in the program to better understand the impact that was occurring during 8 months they met. The pre assessment was done in November and the post assessment was given in May. The students met for a total of 16 times.



Personal Social

ASCA

PS:A1.2 Identify values, attitudes and beliefs

PS:A2.2 Respect alternative points of view

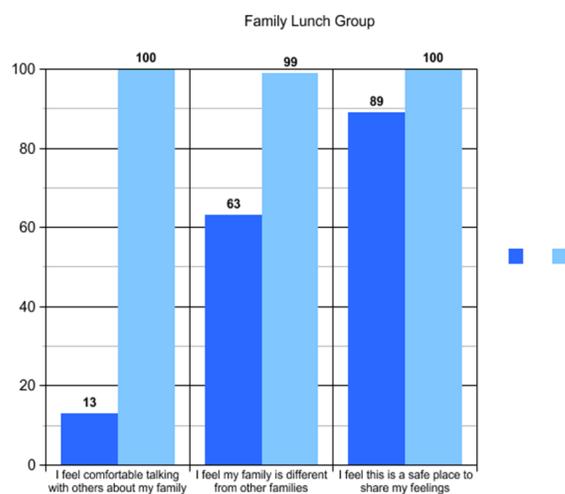
PS:A2.3 Recognize, accept, respect and appreciate individual differences

PS:A2.5 Recognize and respect differences in various family configurations

WCSCM

F.4.1.4 Identify and use resource people in the school and Community

Divorce has become more common among the students at McKinley Elementary School. The school counselor hosts a group each month for students from separated, divorced or split families to come, eat lunch, and talk about the issues that can arise when parents separate or divorce. A pre and post assessment was provided. The questions asked were #1 I feel comfortable talking with others about my family. #2 I feel my family is different from other families. #3 I feel this is a safe place to share my feelings.



Career

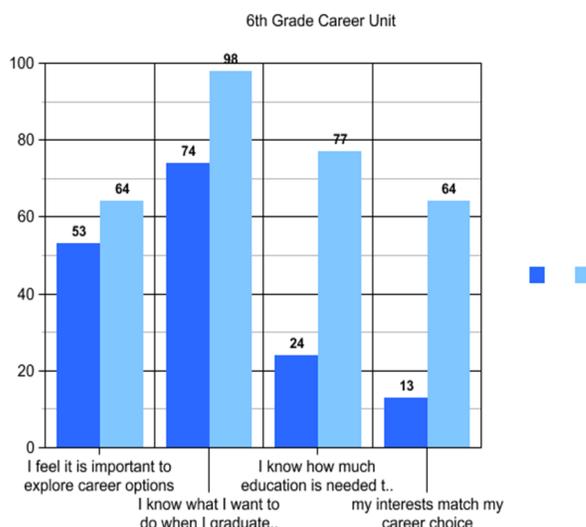
ASCA

C:A1.6 Learn how to set goals, C:A1.8 Pursue and develop competency in areas of interest, C:A1.9 Develop hobbies and vocational interests

WCSCM

H.8.1.1 Demonstrate an understanding of educational levels (e.g. work-based learning, certificate, two-year, four-year, and professional degrees) and performance skills needed to attain personal and career goals.

Career Based Learning is an integral part of the Comprehensive School Counseling program at McKinley. 6th grade students are introduced to career education and learning in large groups in November and in small groups in December, through Xello. Students were positively impacted by the experience as seen in the graph noting new interests in career exploration and learning. Pre and Post questions asked I feel it is important to explore career options, I know what I want to do when I graduate from high school, I know how much education is needed to achieve the career I would like, my interests match my career choice. The graph on the left is the pre assessment, while the graph on the right is the post assessment.



School Counseling Program Goals

For the 2017-2018 school year the school counselor will focus on the following program goals:

1. Implementing a Tier 3 intervention for one family within the school community. The goals will be based upon the family, school and outside persons invited by the family. The school's goal will be to increase classroom minutes by lowering time in the office from an average 30 minutes a week to 15 minutes a week.
2. The school counselor will create and implement a system to decrease truancy. Maintaining a positive relationship with parents through phone calls, home visits and setting up a plan for students prior to receiving communication from the principal/SRO. McKinley will reduce the instances of student tardiness and absences by 15%.