

**PARENT PERMISSION SLIP
FOR SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES**

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Your child, _____, who is in the _____ grade, has been referred to the school counseling program. The counseling program occurs during regular school hours. Your child will be seen in a group or in an individual session each week and participate in a number of activities related to counseling if you give permission. Counseling session information is confidential (except in cases of safety related concerns). If you agree to allow your child to participate in the counseling program at school, please complete this form, print your name and sign. Return the form to school as soon as possible. There are only a certain number of children who can be served each week.

I, _____ (parent / guardian printed name) agree to allow my child _____ (child's first / last name) born on ___/___/___ (DOB) to participate in weekly counseling sessions for the current academic school year.

Parent/Guardian Sign: _____

Date Signed: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Should you need to speak to the counselor, you may contact the school and leave a message asking for a return phone call. The counselor who will be working with your child (provided you give your permission) is: Kurt LaRose, MSW, LCSW or his assignee.

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220 John Knox Rd., Ste. 4a
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Send my child to a counselor?

It's not uncommon for parents who are considering counseling for their children to have many questions. In fact, asking the questions is a good idea; you should know what you're getting your child into and you should have enough information to make an informed decision. Listed below are several "common concerns" that are expressed by parents/guardians and some "other thoughts" that might be helpful in your decision.

COMMON CONCERNS...

- People will think my child is "crazy."
- Everyone will make fun of my child when they find out there's a counselor.
- Our problems are no else's business.
- We can solve our own problems.
- I must be a bad parent if my kid needs counseling.
- Anyone who thinks my child needs counseling, must have a problem about themselves.
- Once you start counseling, you never stop.

OTHER THOUGHTS ...

- Most children who go to a school counselor will not be diagnosed with any kind of mental disorder. Still, children face problems that require the help of a trained professional.
- Confidentiality ensures that only authorized people will know about counseling. Unless you tell someone they will not know.
- Problems exist in *every family*; most need some kind of help in solving them.
- This is often very true. Counseling will help your child learn out how to solve many problems.
- Parenting is not always the problem. Children have struggles at home, but they can also have struggles in school.
- It is the intention of the school to help your child be successful in the classroom. Referrals to counseling are solving problems that appear at school.
- Counseling will be provided during the school year, and only as long as you believe it is necessary. If your child does not want to participate in counseling, we will not require it – it really is your (and your child's) choice.

Hopefully your concerns have been addressed, but if not, please call the school and ask them to have the counselor contact you. Please be aware that counseling is only offered one day per week and that space is limited. If you want your child to be seen, please return the permission slip (included with this page) as quickly as possible.

My hope is that counseling will assist your child in many areas: academics, behavior, and social skills. Feel free to contact me at any time.



Kurt LaRose, MSW, LCSW
Counselor & Therapist
FLORIDA SW #9798