**POWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Counselor’s Corner**

**MRS. TONNETT JAMES AND MRS. SHURRONDA HOPKINS**

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Counselors “C.A.R.E” About Student Success:

“Collaborate, Advocate, Reinforce, Empower!”

**October 2020**

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| Dear Parents and Students,  http://images.clipart.com/thw/thw11/CL/5433_2005010014/000803_1060_03/000803_1060_0368_v__v.thb.jpg  Congratulations!  We have made it through our first term of virtual learning for the 2020-2021 school year. I would like to commend parents, students, teachers, and all stakeholders for the commitment to our scholars and their academic excellence. We have had many challenges during these unprecedented times; however, your will to push through has certainly made the journey worth it. We just want to remind you that together we will be victorious in the end! Continue to strive for excellence!  We will continue to work diligently providing students with the social and emotional support needed to be successful this school year. During college spirit and career readiness week in September, we were able to coordinate a wonderful and informative virtual presentation with very encouraging speakers. October 21 is the day that we will recognize unity day by wearing orange and sharing messages against bullying with our students and staff. Powell Counselors will continue monthly guidance lessons, mentoring programs, peer mediation, career lessons, Career Day, Transition Day, and more. If we can be of any assistance to you, please don’t hesitate to call at 601-987-3685 or email us at [tmolden@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:tmolden@jackson.k12.ms.us) and shopkins@jackson.k12.ms.us  Thank you for your continued support of your children and all of their endeavors!  **Academic Development Goal**  Students will acquire the academic preparation essential to learning and succeeding. Through middle school career counseling, they will be introduced to and be able to choose from a variety of educational, training, and employment options that will be essential upon completion of secondary school.  **Career Development Goal**  Students will investigate the world of work in order to make informed career decisions. | **Personal/Social Development Goal**  Students will acquire an understanding of, being respectful of self and others, being responsible for self and their actions, and being ready to learn.  **Small Group Counseling**  Through small group counseling we offer support, education and coping skills for students on both academic, behavior and/or social topics. Topics may include: friendships, divorce or changing family issues, anger management, self-esteem building, conflict resolution, study skills, and social skills. 010303_0679_1369_v__vDuring this unique time of virtual learning in education, Powell has added an advisory program tailored to assist with our small group efforts.  **Individual Counseling**  We love talking with students and helping them to solve their problems and celebrate their successes! Individual counseling takes place when: a student request counseling; parents, teachers, administrators and other school staff members refer the student; or the counselor initiates contact. We will continue our individual counseling efforts this semester through Canvas and Google Classroom. Our students have been sent invites to our virtual offices through Canvas.  **Counselors “C.A.R.E” About Student Success:**  “Collaborate, Advocate, Reinforce, Empower!”  NEWSLETTERS WILL BE LOCATED ON THE POWELL WEBSITE  (Under the Counselor’s Corner section) | |
| **Featured Article: Counselor FAQ**  000803_1062_0908_v__v**Why Do Parents Contact a School Counselor?**   * Academic Achievement * Social or behavior concerns * Transition to new school * Special needs of students * Student crisis situations (example: illness or death in family) * Family transitions (example: move or divorce)   **How Is a Student Referred to the School Counselor?**   * Self-referral * Teacher, administrator or staff referral * Parent Referral * Counselor Observation   **Why Middle School Counselors?**  000803_1056_0464_v__vMiddle school years set the tone for developing the knowledge, attitudes and skill necessary for children to become healthy, competent and confident learners. Through a comprehensive developmental school counseling program, counselors work as a team with the school staff, parents and the community to create a caring climate and atmosphere. By providing education, prevention, early identification and intervention, school counselors can help all children achieve academic success. The professional middle school counselor holds at least a master’s degree and required state certification in school counseling. Maintaining certification includes on-going professional development to stay current with education reform and challenges facing today’s students. Professional association membership enhances the school counselor’s knowledge and effectiveness. (Adapted from the American School Counselors Association Website)  **Referral**  Should you have any classroom concerns regarding your child, you may first want to contact your child’s teacher and make them aware of any issues. However, if you would like to speak with the counselors about your child, please feel free to contact us directly via email or by phone.  **ATTENDANCE**  Although we are currently 100% virtual, attending school regularly is important for student success especially during the pandemic. In order to ensure that this takes place, a uniform attendance policy has been put in place at all Jackson Public Schools. Please refer to the student handbook for further clarification. | | **IMPORTANT RESOURCES**  **McKinney- Vento Act**  Jackson Public Schools is a recipient of the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program Grant. This grant provides for activities and services to homeless children, including preschool children and homeless youth, that enable the children and youth to enroll, attend, and succeed in school. If you need any assistance, the Homeless Liaison for JPS is Dr. Faith Strong. She is located at Enochs, 101 Dr. Dennis Holloway Dr. Jackson, MS 39203 and you may contact Dr. Strong at 601-960-8885.  Powell Middle School has taken every measure presented to make sure that our students who may be affected by homelessness (including families in transition) have received the premium services that they deserve and we have followed our district policies as they relate to these students. We value the privacy of our students and we assure you that we serve students and families affected with respect and discretion.  **Upcoming Dates to Remember**   * Nov. 5, 2020- Parent Workshop (JPS Homepage) * Nov. 13, 2020- World Kindness Day * Nov. 16, 2020- 2nd 9 weeks’ mid-term reports * Nov. 23-27, 2020- Thanksgiving Break * Dec. 2, 2020- Exceptional Education Day * Dec. 18, 2020- 60% Day for Students * Dec. 1-7, 2020- National Handwashing Awareness Week * Dec. 21, 2020-January 3, 2021- Christmas Break | |
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