

# **SERVING THE WHOLE STUDENT TO INCREASE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

Foothills Education Charter High School  
Mountain Education Charter High School  
Coastal Plains Education Charter High School



---

# And Now Your Feature Presentation:

---

- The Importance of Serving Students Outside the Classroom
- The Five Core Supports of Foothills, Mountain Ed., and Coastal Plains
- Digging Deeper into the Whole Student
- Conclusion

# **Why is it Important to Serve Students Outside the Classroom?**

- Promoting Student Well-Being Beyond Instruction:
  - Increases Student Health and Morale
  - Contributes to a Positive School Climate
- Students who are healthier and able to attend a safe and welcoming educational environment will have higher attendance rates.
- Research illustrates that student achievement increases the more students are in the classroom.
- Serving the whole student through student supports will also assist schools in legal compliance – sometimes with the aid of federal funding.

# **The Five Core Student Supports**



COUNSELORS

GRADUATION COACHES

CAREER SPECIALISTS

SOCIAL WORKERS

TEAM COORDINATORS

- **SCHOOL COUNSELORS**

- Direct the development of Student Services plans based on student needs
  - Assist students and families with educational planning
  - Prepare students for post-secondary options
  - Provide counseling as needed for specific student concern
- 
- School Counselors enable students to receive effective and efficient instruction while also preparing for life after high-school.
  - The school counselor's ability to tailor a student's educational experience to his or her specific needs minimizes distraction and allows the student to focus on achievement and graduation.



# School Counselors





# Graduation Coaches

## • GRADUATION COACHES

- Monitor senior student academic progress and attendance
  - Identify interventions to further student achievement
  - Track progress towards graduation
  - Develop strategies for drop out recovery
  - Foster parent and community outreach programs
- 
- Graduation Coaches provide “whatever it takes” to help students graduate
  - The Graduation Coach’s dedication to ensuring student success ensures that the school is prepared to meet a student’s academic needs at all times.

- **CAREER SPECIALISTS**

- Coordinate Bridge-Required Activities
  - Coordinate College Credit Now – Dual Enrollment Program
  - Assist with Career Nights
  - Assist with College Field Trips
  - Assist Students and Families with Career Planning
- 
- Career Specialists Bridge the Gap Between Secondary and Post-Secondary Experiences.
  - The Career Specialist's Ability to Bring Post-Secondary Experiences into High School Motivates Students and Encourages them to Achieve and Graduate so They Can Take the Next Step.



# Career Specialists



# Social Workers

- **SOCIAL WORKERS**
  - Help Students Overcome Barriers to Attendance
  - Help Students and Parents Cope and Overcome Financial Needs
  - Provide Crises Counseling
  - Conduct Home Visits to When Students or Families Cannot Attend School
  - Connect Students and Families with Other Appropriate Agencies and Community Support to Meet Their Specific Needs
- Social Workers Assess Students in Crisis and Develop and Implement Specific Assistance to Overcome Obstacles Preventing Effective Instruction
- The Social Worker Resolves the Most Urgent Needs of a Student and Family to Enable the Student to Concentrate on Attendance and Achievement.



- **TEAM COORDINATORS**

- Responsible for the overall administration of the Mentor Program
- Train Mentors
- Monitor mentor weekly activities with students
- Advise mentors concerning student contacts, parent contacts, student referrals
- Provide information for monthly Wellness Report
- Communicate program progress with Site Administrators on a regular basis



**Team  
Coordinators**

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT  
MENTORS

ALUMNI TRANSITION  
COORDINATOR

ALUMNI TRANSITION  
COUNSELORS

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL AND  
EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SUICIDE PREVENTION  
PROGRAM

**Digging  
Deeper to  
Support the  
Whole  
Student**



# Individual Student Mentors

- **INDIVIDUAL STUDENT MENTORS**
  - Meet individually with students on a weekly basis
  - Monitor student attendance
  - Monitor student academic progress
  - Develop nightly and weekly attendance goals
  - Develop nightly and weekly academic goals
  - Make referrals as necessary to address student needs

- **ALUMNI TRANSITION COORDINATOR**

- Coordinate Alumni Transition Counselors
- Investigate and implement services to help Foothills students be successful after graduation
- Foster post-secondary options for students in our communities
- Analyze feedback from graduates to make program improvement recommendations



# Alumni Transition Coordinator



# Alumni Transition Counselors

- **ALUMNI TRANSITION COUNSELORS**

- Meet with seniors individually and in groups to further develop academic, career, personal/social skills, goals and plans
- Use YouScience (aptitude/interest assessment) reports to inform goal setting and plans for post-secondary education, employment, career and life
- Facilitate having graduates return to Foothills sites to speak to student groups and speak at graduations



- **DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

- Vet, organize and train staff on all Social Emotional Learning programs
- Work with Student Services staff to deliver Social Emotional Learning curriculum to students to best meet their needs
- Coordinate with Director of Prevention and Intervention to provide Wrap Around Services at all sites
- Develop Social Emotional Learning Curriculum based on CASEL framework



**Director of  
Social and  
Emotional  
Learning**



# Suicide Prevention Program

- **SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAM**
  - Layered approach to suicide prevention
  - Students participate in Signs of Suicide program
  - Counselors and Social Workers are trained in ASIST (16 hour training)
  - ALL other staff trained in safeTALK or suicideTALK
  - This is an attempt to encourage open conversation about suicide among students and staff.

# Conclusion

- The Goal of Every School is to Ensure All Students Receive a High-Quality Education.
- This Often Requires Extending Beyond the Classroom to Serve the Student.
- In Addition to Core Support Services, Such as Counselors, Graduation Coaches, and Social Workers, Schools Should Contemplate Additional Supports to Meet the Specific Needs of Their Student Body.
- Serving Students Outside the Classroom Will Ultimately Increase Attendance, Student Achievement, and Legal Compliance.