

# Spencer-Westlawn Elementary Guidance and Counseling



---

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Welcome to another school year of success and growth! I am the guidance counselor at Spencer-Westlawn Elementary School. In this letter, I will tell you about the services that the Guidance and Counseling Program has to offer to students and their families. The Spencer-Westlawn School Counseling Program provides high quality, comprehensive school counseling services with equal access to all students. Students can be referred by administrations, teachers, parents, or through self-referral. All students receive services with no barriers or exclusions

The primary service of the school counselor is to provide direct assistance to students in the school. The guidance program is designed to address the needs of all students by helping them acquire competencies in career planning and exploration, knowledge of self/others and educational/vocational development. The guidance program includes the guidance curriculum, individual planning and responsive services.

The counseling program at Spencer-Westlawn enables students, parents, and teachers to experience positive learning involvement. The program consists of a myriad of supportive services: individual and group counseling, parent and teacher consultations, group guidance, referral assistance to other programs and services in the community, and student testing. Counseling referrals may be received from students, teachers, parents/guardians, or peers. Referrals forms are available for parents in the main office upon request.

This year, as a part of the guidance program, we will be targeting conflict resolution/decision making skills and bullying. The overall objective is to help students identify constructive ways to resolve conflict, implement them and provide measures to prevent bullying. All bullying incidents should be reported to the counselor and referred to the Spencer-Westlawn Bullying Investigation Committee (B.I.C.). All reports of bullying can be made by contacting the counselor by telephone (251)221-1705 or email [ljohnson2@mcps.com](mailto:ljohnson2@mcps.com).

Sincerely,

LaShondra Johnson, Counselor