

## **SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM**

### School Counseling Services

Maggie L. Walker Governor's School provides the following counseling services to all students:

- Academic counseling which assists students and their parents to acquire knowledge of the curricula choices available to students, to plan a program of studies, to arrange and interpret academic testing and to seek post-secondary academic opportunities.
- Career/college counseling which helps students to acquire information and plan action about work, jobs, mentorships/apprenticeships, and post-secondary educational and career opportunities.
- Personal/social counseling which assists a student to develop an understanding of themselves, the rights and needs of others, how to resolve conflict and to define individual goals, reflecting their interests, abilities and aptitudes. Information and records of personal/social counseling will be kept confidential and separate from a student's educational records and not disclosed to third parties without prior parental consent or as otherwise provided by law. Parents may elect, by notifying Maggie L. Walker Governor's School in writing, to have their child not participate in personal/social counseling.

No student is required to participate in any counseling program to which the student's parents object.

The counseling program does not include the use of counseling techniques which are beyond the scope of the professional certification or training of counselors, including hypnosis, or other psychotherapeutic techniques that are normally employed in medical or clinical settings and focus on mental illness or psychopathology.

Parents are notified annually about the counseling programs which are available to their children. The notification will include the purpose and general description of the programs, information regarding ways parents may review materials to be used in counseling programs at their child's school and information about the procedures by which parents may limit their child's participation in such programs.

### Employment Counseling and Placement Services

In partnership with participating school divisions, the Regional School Board provides secondary students employment counseling and placement services to furnish information relating to the employment opportunities available to students graduating from or leaving the school. Such information includes all types of employment opportunities, including, but not limited to, apprenticeships, the military, career education schools, and the teaching profession. In providing such services, the participating school divisions consult and cooperate with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Department of Labor and Industry, local business and labor organizations, and career schools.

If the Regional School Board provides access to its high school and contact with such high school's student body or other contact with its high school students during a school sponsored activity to persons or groups for occupational, professional or educational recruitment, it provides equal access on the same basis to official recruiting representatives of the military forces of the Commonwealth and the United States.

Adopted: January 21, 2016

Amended: September 14, 2017

Amended: October 18, 2018

Amended: October 21, 2021

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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-23.3, 22.1-130.1, § 22.1-209.

8 VAC 20-620-10.

Cross Ref.: Pol. 4045      Student Records