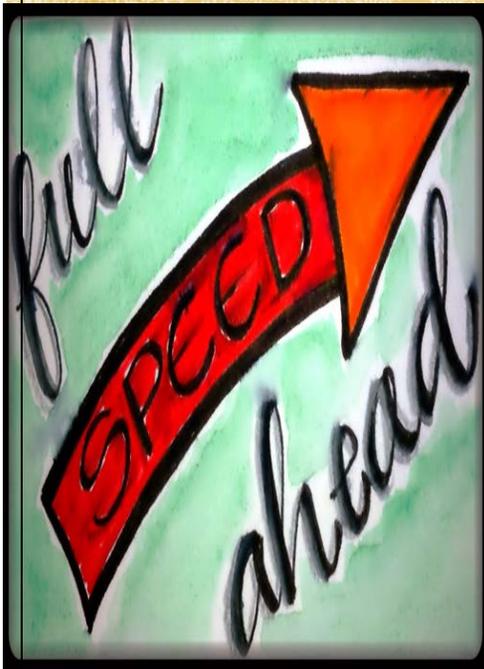


THE MESSENGER

IN THE SWING OF THINGS

Congratulations! You have had another great opening of a school year! From the many phone conversations, emails and meetings that I have had the privilege of taking part in with many of you, it is evident that you are truly moving **FULL SPEED AHEAD!** Many of you have expressed your need for training and resources on various topics in school counseling and career development; some of those topics will be addressed in this newsletter. In addition, some of the amazing activities taking place across is included for your viewing as well. Continue to keep up the good work and **BREATHE!** The holiday season is nearing!



Thinking Ahead: National Career Development Month

The National Career Development Association promotes career development through its annual celebration of Career Development Month. In addition, in November, NCDA sponsors an annual Poetry and Poster Contest. This year's theme is Celebrating First Jobs Through Encore Careers. It is a great way to involve all students, grades K-12, as you celebrate and promote National Career Development Month in November. To learn more, contact your Regional Career Specialist for details.

**SC Department of Education
Office of Student Intervention Services**

A monthly newsletter for Guidance Personnel

**Personal
Pathways**



to success™

Empowering all students to shape our future.™

The Basics: IGP Conferences

The WHO, WHAT and HOW

Individual Graduation Plan conferences are an excellent way to advise parents and students in a one on one setting and equip them with invaluable tools for being successful during their matriculation through high school and college and their entrance into the workplace.

WHO

- ALL students in grades 8-12
- Parents
- School Counselor and Career Specialist
- Other designated representative

WHAT

An Individual Graduation Plan is designed to help parents and students make informed decisions regarding their future. IG conferences are held annually and should contain pertinent information to help parents and students make informed decisions during their high school career. The meeting should be aimed at giving parents some vital information to assist them in helping the student on their pathway to success.

HOW

- Must be led by a certified school counselor
- Must be held individually (NOT IN A GROUP SETTING)



FYI

Upcoming Dates

November 5, 2014

Best Practices in Career Development Webinar

1:00pm

<https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?password=M.820AC6084ACCB3474B250587FD8A26&sid=2013163>

November 10-14, 2014

National Career Development Week

November 12, 2014

National Career Development Day

BEST PRACTICES

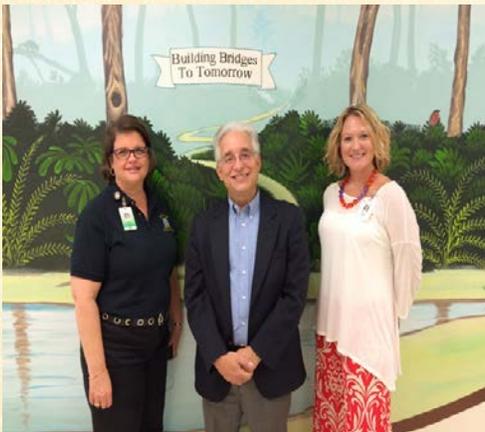
Berea Middle School

"Principal For A Day"

Submitted by

Elizabeth Voss, School Counselor

Greenville County Schools held its first annual "Principal For A Day" event where each middle school was matched with a business partner from our community. Berea Middle School was matched with the CEO of Property Boss Solutions, Mr. Michael Mino. The event went well and was planned in conjunction with Dr. Majorie Dowd, Regional Career Specialist. Pictured below is Mr. Mino with school staff.

**Fairfield Central High School**

Cultivating a College Going Culture

Submitted by

April Finley, Guidance Director

Fairfield Central High is off to a great start this year! School Counselors hosted a very successful Application Day on Sept. 5. All seniors had the opportunity to hear from a panel of admission counselors from Claflin University, Benedict College, USC-Columbia, USC-Lancaster, Winthrop University, Columbia College, Midlands Technical College, Centura College and the College of Charleston. Our seniors completed over 200 college applications!

As a department, the guidance team wanted to continue to share information about colleges and universities with students. They decided to use the manual provided by CACRAO to highlight a college each day during the morning announcements and on the guidance bulletin board.

Pictured above is a bulletin board highlighting persons in Fairfield County School district who went to college and where they attended. This simple practice has sparked conversations between students and staff members about the schools they attended and how their experiences have gotten them to where they are today.

✦ *Are you doing awesome things in your school? If so, **SHARE, SHARE, SHARE**..... Submit information and pictures so that we can share them with your colleagues across the state via this newsletter. All submissions should be emailed to dnero@ed.sc.gov.*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCES GUIDANCE ON BULLYING OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

As part of National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month, the U.S. Education Department's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) issued [guidance to schools](#) reminding them that bullying is wrong and must not be tolerated – including against America's 6.5 million students with disabilities. The Department issued guidance in the form of a letter to educators detailing public schools' responsibilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of Americans with Disabilities Act regarding the bullying of students with disabilities. If a student with a disability is being bullied, federal law requires schools to take immediate and appropriate action to investigate the issue and, as necessary, take steps to stop the bullying and prevent it from recurring.

The latest letter makes clear that the protections for students with disabilities who are bullied on any basis extend to the roughly three quarters of a million students who are not eligible for IDEA services but are entitled to services under the broader Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. That law bars discrimination on the basis of disability in all programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance.

Help is available for those who are either targets of disability bullying or know of someone who might be, such as:

- A [fact sheet for parents](#) on schools' obligations under federal law to address bullying. The fact sheet is also available in [Spanish](#).
- Visiting the federal Web site, www.stopbullying.gov; this provides useful information on bullying prevention and remedies.
- Asking to meet with the student's team that designs his or her individualized education program – the IEP or Section 504 teams.
- Asking to meet with the principal or school district's special education coordinators to have the school address bullying concerns.
- Seeking help from OCR. The office investigates complaints of disability discrimination at schools. To learn more about federal civil rights laws or how to file a complaint, contact OCR at 800-421-3481 (TDD: 800-877-8339), or ocr@ed.gov. OCR's Web site is www.ed.gov/ocr. To fill out a complaint form online, go to <http://www.ed.gov/ocr/complaintintro.html>.

To view OCR's guidance detailing public schools' responsibilities regarding the bullying of students with disabilities in Spanish, [click here](#).

MANDATED REPORTING

A General Overview

WHO SHOULD REPORT?

Physicians	Teachers	Social Workers	Funeral Directors
Nurses	Principals	Substance Abuse Treatment Staff	Computer Technicians
Dentists	Assistant Principals	Childcare Workers	Judges
Optometrists	Counselors	Foster Parents	Clergy
Medical Examiners	Mental Health Workers	Law Enforcement	Film Processors
	School Attendance Officers	Juvenile Justice Workers	Voluntary non-attorney Guardian ad Litem

WHEN SHOULD YOU REPORT?

- A decision to report must be based on a reasonable belief that a child has been or may be abused or neglected
- Reporters do not need to have conclusive proof that a child has been abused or neglected prior to reporting abuse or neglect to the proper authorities.
- Failure to report is a misdemeanor and if convicted could lead to a fine up to \$500 or imprisonment up to 6 months.

WHO SHOULD YOU REPORT TO?

DSS and/or Law Enforcement if:

The alleged perpetrator of abuse or neglect is the child’s parent, guardian, or a person responsible for the child’s welfare.

Law Enforcement if:

The alleged perpetrator of abuse or neglect is not the child’s parent, guardian, or a person responsible for the child’s welfare.

(This should be reported to the Law Enforcement agency where the incident occurred)

People that are mandated to report suspected abuse or neglect are immune from civil and criminal liability, as long as they have acted in good faith.

You can make a report anonymously or not.