



## **School Counseling Information and Informed Consent**

### **Overview of the school counseling program**

The school counseling program at the Putnam County ESC Annex is designed to assist your child to make the most of his or her educational experiences. The school counselor, in cooperation with teacher, staff, and administrators at the Putnam County ESC Annex, is responsible for providing a comprehensive school guidance program for students enrolled in grades K through 12. A comprehensive, developmental guidance program is the cornerstone of an effective school counseling program. Components of the program align with the American School Counseling Association's National Model and include school guidance curriculum, individual student planning and counseling services, responsive counseling services, and system support services. Each component of the program is outlined below:

### **Guidance curriculum**

Classroom guidance delivers services to larger groups, and it consists of classroom lessons that emphasize wellness-based activities that address topics in a preventative manner.

### **Individual student planning**

Individual student planning involves test information, student data, and achievement information for the purpose of developing immediate and long-range goals or intervention efforts for academic success of individual students and student groups. Screening students for special program consideration (with exception to special education services) is also considered

### **Services**

Services involve both direct and indirect services to students. The methods of service delivery for responsive services are individual counseling, group counseling, consultation, referrals, and crisis response.

Individual counseling sessions involve offering direct service to students to address both proactive and reactive needs.

Small-group counseling is a direct short-term service designed to respond proactively and reactive to student needs. This format of psychoeducational service offers a variety of small-group experiences on relevant and developmentally appropriate topics such as study skills, anger management, grief, social skills, and other needs-based academic or personal development issues.

Consultation is an indirect service which involves collaboration with administrators, teachers, parents, and other counseling professionals to address student issues or concerns.