

## **COUNSELING & GUIDANCE PROGRAM**

This brochure was developed to provide you with information about the Counseling program so that you make an informed decision about allowing your child to participate in it.

The purpose of the LMS Counseling Program is to assure that Larned Middle school students will acquire and demonstrate knowledge of self and others, competencies in career exploration, and educational/career-technical development as they learn to live, work, and learn over their lifetime.

The mission of Fort Larned USD 495 is to provide and support a positive learning environment, enabling all students to reach their highest potential.

**In order for students to reach their highest potential, our counseling mission is to assist each student to develop the knowledge, skills, values and attitude needed to reach their full potential as productive members of society.**

The ultimate goal of the counseling program is that each student will graduate with the personal, academic, and career related skills and knowledge to be able to make self-directed and realistic decisions in an increasingly complex world.

To achieve this goal, the counseling center is an integral part of the school educational system.



### **WELCOME!**

I would like to welcome your child to the counseling program at Larned Middle School. I appreciate the opportunity to provide you with a counseling program to benefit your student's successful educational experience at LMS.

The purpose of this brochure is to explain who I am and what counselors do; and to answer some questions you may have about the counseling services here at Larned Middle School.

After you read through the brochure, I will be happy to answer any other questions you may have.

I hope your child's experiences at LMS are positive ones. Middle School is a challenging, yet exciting time in a student's life. I am here to help in any way I can.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Mrs. Pruter, School Counselor, is available both by appointment and by walk-in. We encourage parents to call for an appointment to avoid waiting for service.

To reach the counseling office, call 620-285-8430, Ext. 137, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Students may sign up on the appointment sheet beside Mrs. Pruter's door, or come in on a walk-in basis if in crisis, during breaks, or when referred by a school staff member.

If services cannot be provided, Mrs. Pruter will do her best to find someone who can help.

## **Larned Middle School Counseling Program 2022-2023**



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## ASCA Standards for Student Academic, Career and Personal/Social Development



### What is a middle school Counselor?

Middle school counselors work with all students, school staff, families, and members of the community as an integral part of the education program in maximizing student success. Through leadership, advocacy and collaboration, professional school counselors promote school success through a focus on academic achievement, prevention and intervention activities, advocacy, social/emotional and career development.



### What do middle school counselors do?

1. Provide direct counseling services to students individually and in support groups.
2. Provide education and supportive services to parents.
3. Provide consultation services to teachers.
4. Facilitate referrals to community support services.
5. Support a safe learning environment and work to safeguard the human rights of all members of the school community.
6. Address the needs of all students through character development and culturally relevant prevention and intervention classroom lessons and programs.
7. Handle all the course set-up and scheduling at LMS.

### PRIVACY INFORMATION

Mrs. Pruter will make every effort to follow the counseling guidelines in the American School Counselor Association Code of Ethics and standards of practice. This means she will keep the information you share with her confidential—unless you give permission to share it, or unless she is required by law or school policy to share it.

Examples of when information must be shared:

- When you give permission to share information.
- When she is required to release information by a school policy, state law and/or the code of ethics for counselors. For example:
  - √ If she believes you are at risk of harming yourself or others.
  - √ If she believes someone is trying to hurt you.
  - √ If a judge orders her to provide information in court.
  - √ If a law is broken.
  - √ When she must consult with other professionals to better help you.

If you have any questions or worries about these privacy rules, please tell her! Your child's safety and welfare are our highest priorities.

### ADDITIONAL POINTS

As a professional school counselor, Mrs. Pruter will adhere to standards of practice that support your child's:

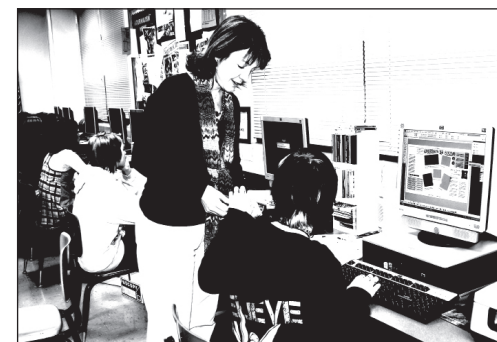
- √ right to respect and dignity as a unique human being
- √ access to a guidance and counseling program without prejudice or discrimination as to person, character, belief, or practice
- √ right to self-direction
- √ right to choice and responsibility for decisions
- √ expectation of receiving guidance and counseling services that are within the accepted scope of practice relative to the training, education, and professional credentials of the counselor.
- √ right to privacy and to our compliance to laws, policies, and ethical standards relative to confidentiality.

### ABOUT OUR COUNSELOR

Mrs. Sherry Pruter, M.S., LCPC, is committed to delivering a comprehensive counseling program to students. She has a Master's degree in School and Community Counseling from FHSU, an Undergraduate degree from McPherson College & WSU in English, ESL, and Journalism, and has 28 years teaching/counseling experience in the public school system. She holds a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor certification (LCPC) and is licensed to practice professional community counseling in the state of Kansas.

Mrs. Pruter is concerned about the emotional well-being, academic progress, and personal/social development of each of her students and will do her best to meet those needs, empowering students to explore career options and make choices that will positively affect their lives.

She is a member of American School Counseling Association, American Counseling Association, Kansas Counseling Association, Kansas School Counseling Association and Christian Educators Association International.



### COUNSELING VISION

As a Larned Middle School counselor, I am a student advocate and partner in your child's academic achievement.

I believe everyone:

- √ has worth & value.
- √ has the ability to make wise decisions.
- √ deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.
- √ has strengths that can be built upon.
- √ is ultimately responsible for his/her choices.
- √ should never, never give up.