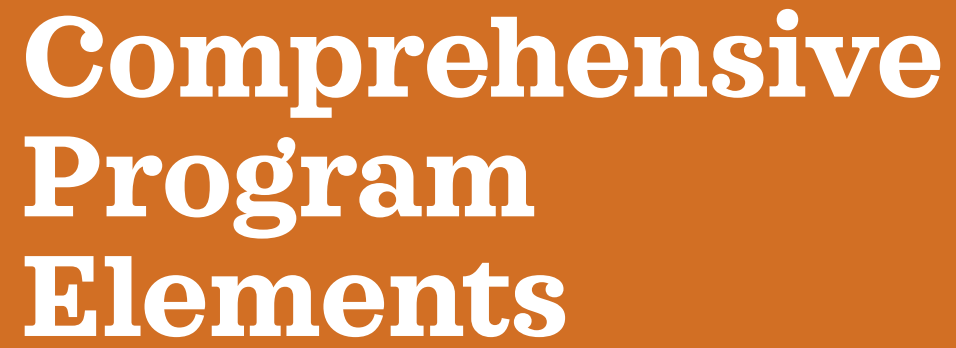


Sarah DeVoe

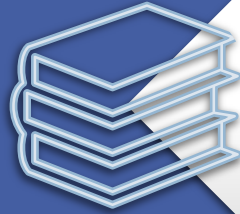
Parent-Teacher Presentation

Liberty University

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Comprehensive Program Elements



Our Mission: Provide students with equal access to a high-quality school counseling program that improves social/emotional, academic, and career outcomes.



Our Vision: Students will be able to gain a positive sense of self, motivation toward their goals, and belief in their abilities. They will leave our school prepared for high school and beyond.



Our Beliefs: Every student can succeed. Every student deserves access to a comprehensive school counseling program that is supported by data. Our school counseling program improves student outcomes.

(ASCA, 2019 & DeVoe, 2022)

Comprehensive Program Elements



- How does the school counseling program promote social/emotional, academic, and career development?
 - Our mission is accomplished through the direct services of **individual counseling, group counseling, and classroom lessons** (ASCA, 2019).
 - Our school counselors also perform indirect services that aid our mission including **consulting** and **collaborating** with other school faculty and mental health professionals, as well as making **referrals** (ASCA, 2019).
- Empirical research supports the idea that school counseling programs improve social/emotional, academic, and career development (ASCA, 2022b).



Advocacy



- Our school counselors act as **advocates** for the students in the classrooms, at home, and within the community.
- We advocate for equitable access to educational opportunities, social/emotional wellbeing, and career opportunities.
- We do this by:
 - following the American School Counselor Association's (ASCA) ethical standards as well as the Individuals with Disabilities Education (IDEA) act that states that every student has the right to free appropriate public education (Vernon & Schimmel, 2019).
 - Ensuring inclusion for all students.
 - Meeting the needs of our students.

Advocacy

- **School staff, parents, and community members** can also act as advocates for the students.
- This can be done by:
 - Demonstrating inclusive perspectives (Hymel & Katz, 2019).
 - Forming strong relationships with students and listening to their needs (Đurišić & Bunijevac, 2017).
 - Providing opportunities for cross-group interaction (Hymel & Katz, 2019)
 - Advocating for students' rights at the school district, state, and national level.



Access, Attainment & Achievement



Access, Attainment & Achievement



Access: Equitable opportunities for educational participation.



Attainment: Student progress reflected by personal, individual improvement.



Achievement: Student progress that is reflected by standard test results and grades.

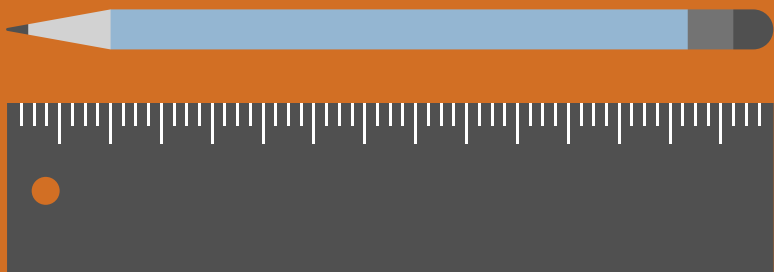
Access, Attainment & Achievement

- Cultural, ethical, socio-economic, legal, and political issues are all factors that may contribute to or hinder school access, attainment, and achievement.
- School counselors consider the potential gaps caused by these factors and how to address them.

Cultural	Ethical	Socio-economic	Legal	Political Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English learning resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under-representation of students of color in honors classes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students not being able to afford school supplies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational accessibility to students with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laws blocking LGBTQ+ students from the resources they need.

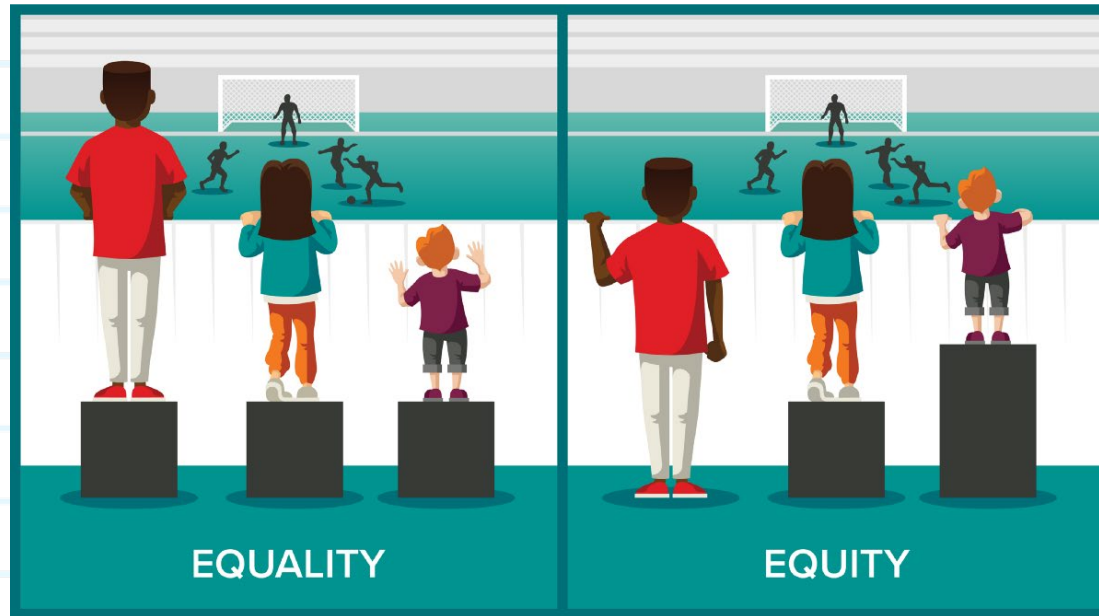


Barriers to Student Development



Barriers to Student Development

- Previously discussed cultural, ethical, socio-economic, legal, and political issues can impact students' **academic achievement**, **social/emotional well-being**, and **postsecondary opportunities**.



- This is why we insist on **equity** within the school.



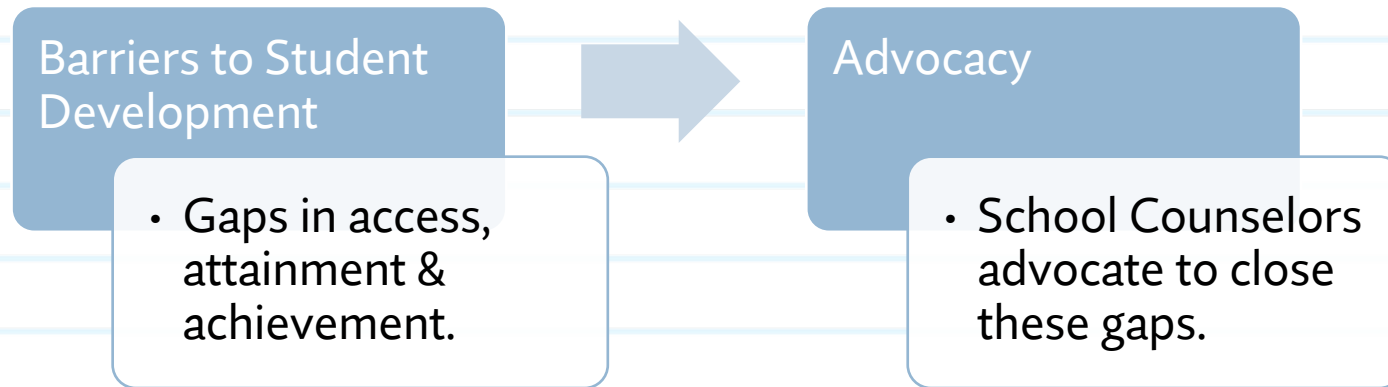
Barriers to Student Development

- We acknowledge that **implicit biases** held by school staff can act as a barrier to student development.
 - This is why school counselors hold to the American School Counselor Association ethical standards that advocate for examining and eliminating these biases (ASCA, 2022a).
 - We encourage all school staff to examine their personal biases, so that they do not allow them to impede student development.



Barriers to Student Development

- Barriers to student development directly relates to issues in access, attainment and achievement as well as advocacy.



- School counselors perform assessments to look for gaps and address them by advocating for or providing resources (ASCA, 2019).
- For example, if an assessment shows that our students have low rates of post-secondary participation, school counselors may emphasize post-secondary opportunities in individual counseling, group counseling, and classroom lessons.





Thank you!

- Thank you all for taking the time to listen to our school counseling program's presentation. You are already taking steps to advocate for the students by spending time that will directly contribute to our student's positive development!

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