

Student Counseling Services

At MHS each child is looked upon as a uniquely endowed individual with specific talents. MHS is a place where these talents are recognized and appreciated, so that each child can flourish academically, socially, and physically. The goal of counseling is to encourage appropriate student behavior and, where necessary, provide guidance and incentives to proper behavior among students and to deal positively in student-to-student conflict.

Resolving Student-to-Student Conflict

The potential for conflict exists because people have different needs and views. The challenge for the counseling department is to find ways of managing conflict constructively so that those involved can learn and grow from the experience. One major key to resolving conflict is Remediation.

Basic Steps in Remediation

- Create a comfortable and private space and uninterrupted time is provided.
- Listening to what happened; both sides are given a chance without interruption to tell their story. (Focusing on issues, not on who did what, while the other concentrates on listening without interrupting).
- Mediator defining problems and concerns of all parties involved, while encouraging all parties to find a solution. Solutions to be included in contract must be agreed upon by both parties.
- A shared agreement (contract) is written to identify the problem, solutions, and consequences if behavior is repeated. All parties agree and sign the document. Counselor monitors situation with parent, student or teacher for progress.

What Can Be Mediated?

Many common student conflicts in schools can be mediated such as

- Name calling
- Exclusion
- Friendship problems
- Rumors
- Property issues
- Fighting
- Bullying

