Parental Involvement
Help your child to be successful in school and in life …

- Make school important
- Encourage your child to do their best
- Attend open houses, back-to-school nights, parent-teacher conferences
- Attend school programs
- Read the school newsletter
- Get to know your child’s teachers and school counselor
- Contact your child’s school counselor with any questions or concerns about your child
- Support your child in school activities
- Encourage reading and writing
- Talk openly and frequently with your child
- Help your child develop career awareness
- Praise and encourage your child
- Celebrate your child’s successes

Contact your child’s school counselor if you have questions or concerns about:

- Your child’s academic progress
- Your child’s social, behavioral, and/or emotional adjustment
- Identifying or sharing your child’s needs
- Coordinating communication with your child’s teachers
- School and community resources available for your child

Parental Review of Materials
Parents may review materials to be used in any school counseling program by contacting the school counselor. Parents who object to the participation of their child in the personal/social counseling program must notify the school principal in writing if the child is not to participate in any such counseling program.

Visit Elementary School web pages and the School Counseling website at:

www.k12albemarle.org

For additional information, contact:

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Albemarle County Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, pregnancy or marital status in its programs and activities. The Director of Human Resources has been designated to handle all inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies.
The mission of the School Counselor is to provide a comprehensive developmental school counseling program that assists all students in acquiring the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed to become effective students, responsible citizens, productive workers, and lifelong learners.

Elementary School Counselors assist students to learn the skills and attitudes necessary to be successful learners. They emphasize with students that the classroom is their first workplace and that communication decision-making, interpersonal, and career awareness skills are important to their success.

The Elementary School Counseling Program is an integral part of the total educational process and the shared responsibility of the entire school community. The professional School Counselor collaborates with other school professionals in helping students learn. A successful program requires the support and participation of all school personnel, parents, and guardians, outside agencies, and the community at large.

Standards of Learning
The Virginia Board of Education, in January 2004, implemented state Standards of Learning for School Counseling Programs. These standards are consistent with Board of Education regulations and are comprised of three domains: academic, career, and personal/social.

Academic Development
Students will develop an understanding of their educational needs and expectations of the educational environment related to their abilities, interests, talents, values and career goals.

Career Development
Students will understand concepts of job and career, skills for success in the workplace (punctuality, initiative, teamwork, and getting along with others), decision making, goal setting, identifying interests, and exploring careers.

Personal/Social Development
Students will increase their knowledge of self, and learn appropriate modes of interaction and communication within school, home and community.

Standards of Learning for School Counseling Programs, delivered through the following framework (adapted from the American School Counselor Association Model), provide a proactive, prevention-based program that encourages and promotes academic, career, and personal/social development in preparation for the challenges of the 21st century.

School Guidance Curriculum
School Counselors provide collaborative lessons within the classroom. Peer relationships, conflict resolution, identifying career interests, and career exploration are discussed in this setting.

Individual Student Planning
Counselors work one-on-one to help all students plan, monitor, and manage their own learning, as well as meet competencies in areas of academic, career, and personal/social development.

Responsive Services
Counselors provide support to meet the immediate needs and concerns of individual students. Students and parents are referred to appropriate community resources when needed.

System Support
School Counselors consult, collaborate, team, and partner to provide professional support for the entire school community.