## GUIDANCE PROGRAM

The Columbia Board of Education views guidance as helping students understand themselves in the light of their abilities, aptitudes, interests, attitudes, strengths and limitations. This process is meant to assist students in the development of their potential, their decisions relating to personal, educational and vocational matters and also in becoming capable of mature self guidance.

Guidance is based upon these broad fundamental principles:

- 1. Individuals are different from one another in their capabilities, aptitudes, interests, needs, goals, desires and values.
- 2. Conditions are improvable. Equality of educational opportunity will benefit the individual and society.
- 3. Guidance is a continual and developmental process. Every experience of the individual influences his/her performance in some way.
- 4. Guidance does not propose to program an individual's course of action but rather tries to assist the individual in arriving at his/her own satisfactory solutions.
- 5. Guidance should assist the individual to understand his/her circumstances and opportunities and to plan his/her life in a satisfactory manner to serve himself/herself as well as society.
- 6. Guidance should assist the individual pursuing career education opportunities, advanced educational opportunities and the obtaining of financial aid to do so.

The district's guidance services includes a wide variety of testing programs and interpretation of results to students, parents and staff; programs that will assist students in good study habits and personal guidance that is in keeping with the principles of human dignity and equality.

A written guidance plan will be developed to provide systematic aid to students in kindergarten through twelfth grade regarding educational, career, civic, personal and social concerns including the harmful effects of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. This plan will provide for appraisal of students' academic abilities, a variety of counseling opportunities and approaches, educational and career planning, and when necessary, appropriate referral. The plan will be evaluated and submitted to the Board for adoption every other year.

The guidance staff will assist the instructional staff and administration in developing and implementing intervention programs to assist students to academic improvement.

Counseling services will be provided by the following counselors in addition to the certified school counselor: Joining Forces K-4; Lorain County Guidance Center 9-12.

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Columbia Schools, Columbia Station, Ohio	