

# **Benefits of the Michigan Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program**

## **Student Benefits**

1. Enhances student academic performance.
2. Promotes knowledge and assistance in career exploration and development.
3. Develops decision-making skills.
4. Increases knowledge of self and others.
5. Promotes strategies for coping with a changing world.
6. Develops a system for long-range planning.
7. Promotes lifelong learning.
8. Increases opportunities of school counselor/student interaction.
9. Promotes a positive climate within the school.

## **Parent/Guardian and Family Benefits**

1. Enhances student academic performance.
2. Increases opportunities for counselor/parent/family interaction.
3. Ensures access to school and community resources.
4. Assures that ALL students will receive services from the school counseling program.
5. Provides support in advocating for their children's academic career and personal/ social
6. Ensures academic planning for every student.
7. Provides training and information on student progress.
8. Provides data for continuous information on student progress.

## **Teacher Benefits**

1. Encourages positive supportive working relationships.
2. Provides training and information on student progress toward achievement of content standards and benchmarks.
3. Defines the role of professional school counselors as educators and consultants.
4. Increases the opportunities for counselor/teacher/other staff interaction.
5. Supports the learning environment.

## **Administrator Benefits**

1. Provides program structure with specific content.
2. Promotes accountability; provides for evaluation of program and personnel.
3. Enhances the community perception of the guidance and counseling program.
4. Increases the opportunities for counselor/administrator and school community
5. Provides immediate high-risk crisis intervention expertise to the administrator and school community.
6. Connects schools and families.
7. Enhances student academic performance.
8. Provides a proactive school guidance curriculum addressing the student needs and enhancing school climate.

## **Board and Department of Education Benefits**

1. Provides a comprehensive guidance and counseling program in the school system
2. Presents program information to the school community
3. Furnishes justification for program funding.

4. Contributes ongoing data relative to student progress on benchmarks.
5. Supports the development of performance standards for assessing student progress on meeting the content standards and benchmarks.
6. Maintains compliance with accreditation requirements.
7. Ensures programs alignment with existing state/federal recommendations, guidelines, and mandates.
8. Enhances student academic performance.

#### **Business, Industry, Labor, and Service Organization Benefits**

1. Presents increased opportunity for collaboration/partnership among counselors, business, industry, labor, and service organizations.
2. Enhances the role of the counselor as a resource person.
3. Increases opportunities for business, industry, labor, and service organization to actively participate in the total school program.
4. Furnishes a potential work force with decision-making skills, career and employability skills, life management skills, and increased knowledge of what constitutes worker responsibility.
5. Assures effective school-to-work transition.
6. Enhanced student academic performance.

#### **Counselor Educator Benefits**

1. Builds collaboration between counselor education programs and schools.
2. Provides a framework for teaching the development of school counseling programs.
3. Provides a model for site-based school counseling field work or internships.
4. Increases data collection and collaborative research on school counseling programs.
5. Establishes a framework for professional development to benefit practicing school counselors.
6. Promotes alliances with other educator training programs.

#### **Post-Secondary Education Benefits**

1. Enhances articulation and transition of students to post-secondary institutions.
2. Prepares every student for advanced educational opportunities
3. Motivates every student to seek a wide range of substantial, post-secondary options, including college
4. Encourages and supports rigorous academic preparation.
5. Promotes equity and access to post-secondary education for every student.

#### **Professional School Counselor Benefits**

1. Enhances student academic performance.
2. Provides a clearly defined role and function.
3. Reduced or eliminates non-guidance functions.
4. Offers the opportunity to impact all students.
5. Supplies a tool for program management and evaluation.
6. Outlines clearly defined responsibilities related to student achievement.
7. Identifies the Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program as an integral component of Michigan's mandated school improvement process.