



R.A.V.E. RECOGNITION OF ACCOUNTABILITY, VERIFICATION AND EXCELLENCE 2014-2015

Sponsored by Alabama School Counselor Association (ASCA)/Supported by Alabama State Department of Education



Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary (MLK)

3112 Meridian Street Huntsville, Alabama 35806

(256) 428-7100 www.martinlutherkingjrelementary.org

Jennifer Douthit, Principal Sarah Spear, Counselor Enrollment: 425 Grades: PK-5

School Year: Traditional

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS: JENNIFER DOUTHIT

Our school counseling program is vital to our students' academic, personal/social, and career growth. The program is data-driven and student centered. The counselor offers guidance lessons based on American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Standards, as well as individual counseling and small group counseling which prepares our students to become life-long learners and leaders in their community. The school counseling student support team (SCSST), led by the counselor, collaborates with our parents and community stakeholders to promote academic success and a supportive school environment for our students.

SCHOOL COUNSELING STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM (SCSST):

The success of MLK is built upon the support, involvement and dedication of administration, students, teachers, parents and stakeholders. The SCSST is led by a full-time counselor who holds a Master's Degree in School Counseling from Auburn University, is a member of both the American School Counseling Association (ASCA) and the Alabama Counseling Association (ALCA) and is a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC). The counselor collaborates with other local Huntsville City school counselors, counselor advisory committee, school administrators, classroom teachers, collaborative teachers, technology staff, gifted teachers, classroom aides, reading coaches, school secretary, librarian, school nurse, instructional partner, curriculum specialist, speech teacher, custodians, community partners and volunteers, parents, and support staff including physical education, art, music, and library. The school counselor designs, coordinates, implements, and evaluates an equitable support system to serve all students.

SCHOOL CLIMATE AND SAFETY

At MLK, school climate and safety is fostered through two programs: the Anti-Defamation League's *No Place for Hate* program and Steven's Covey's *7 Habits for Highly Effective Students*. Both of these programs foster relationships with our faculty, students, and parents to promote a positive learning environment and a school that does not tolerate bullying. The counselor taught large group counseling classes focused on anti-bullying, conflict resolution skills, social acceptance, peer pressure, and anger management. Small group were formed that focused on behavior in the classroom, bereavement, and anger management. In addition, the SCSST helped implement *Positive Behavior Support (PBS)* to help foster a culture of respect and a sense of acceptance for all students. The committee also helped implement Red Ribbon Week which promoted school safety by raising an awareness of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. The fourth and fifth grade girls participated in a "Groovy Girls" peer helper group that helped the girls develop a positive attitude about themselves and their role in the school. Our fifth grade Peer Helpers worked with select kindergarten students to help mature their academic and social skills.

MLK SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY 2014

At MLK, our SCSST works diligently to promote and support the school's mission of helping students learn and grow as leaders. The role of the school counselor is vital to maintaining relationship with the faculty, students, and parents to meet the needs of the school and foster a safe and welcoming environment. The results of the surveys show that a majority of our students, faculty, and parents feel safe and welcome at our school.

Q #1: SAFETY: I/my children feel safe at school.

Students: Y 91.97%, N 8.03%

Teachers: Y 100%, N 0%

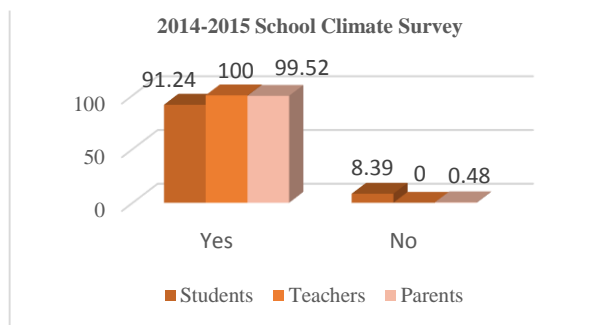
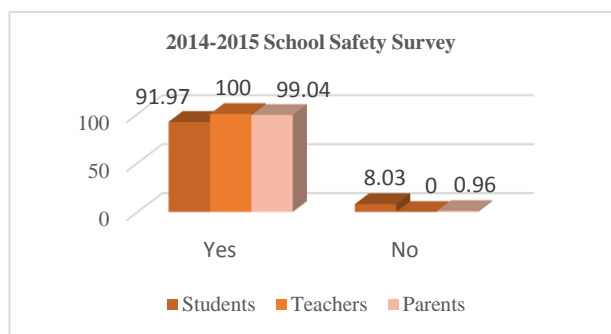
Parents: Y 99.04%, N 0.96%

Q #2: CLIMATE: I/My children feel welcome at school.

Students: Y 91.24%, N 8.39%

Teachers: Y 100%, N 0%

Parents: Y 99.52%, N 0.48%



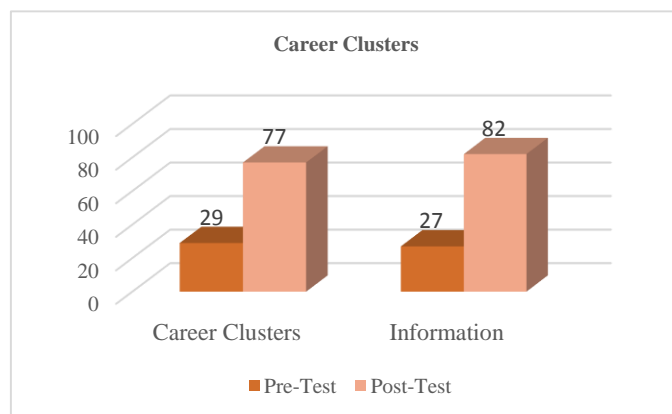
STUDENT RESULTS

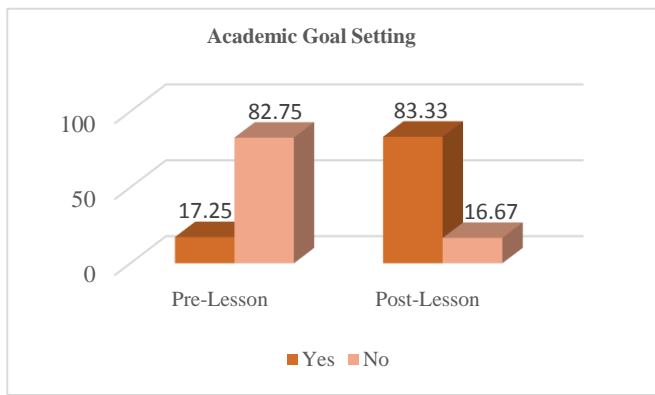
The results of MLK's students are a demonstration of the successful implementation of the ASCA National Standards. The data is collected throughout the school year and is analyzed to address the needs quickly and effectually. The outcomes of the students' results will provide useful information to help meet the needs of our students and promote support from the staff, parents, and our stakeholders.

Career Clusters:

(C.A1.2, C.B1.2, C.B1.4)

Fourth and fifth grade students learned about the 16 different career clusters. They took an interests inventory to determine their top three career clusters. Before the lesson, 29% of the students knew what career clusters were. After the lesson, 77% reported that they knew what career clusters were. Also, before the lesson, 27% of students reported that they knew where to go to find information about career clusters. After the lesson, 82% of the students reported that they knew where to go to find information about career clusters.



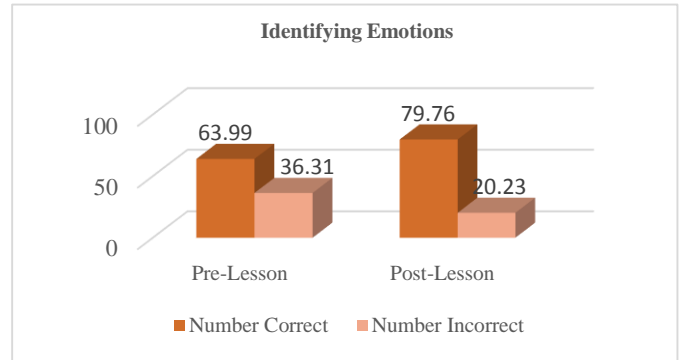


Academic Goal Setting (A.B.2.1, A.C1.6)

Select Kindergarten through third grade classes learned about academic goal setting. They learned about short-term and long-term goals. They also learned about the goal setting process and how to word “SMART” goals. Before the lesson, 17.24% of students reported that they knew what goals were and could define a goal. After the lesson, 83.33% of students could verbalize what goals are and were able to write one short-term goal and one long-term goal. The students were able to identify two goals that they will work towards to improve their academic goals and aspirations.

Identifying Emotions (PS.A1.5)

One Pre-Kindergarten and six Kindergarten classes learned about different emotions. Before the lesson, they were asked to match a picture of an emotion or feeling to the written word. 63.98% of students were able to correctly match the picture to the word. After reading *The Way I Feel* by Janan Cain, 79.76% of students were able to correctly match the picture to the word. The students were able to identify the emotions that they feel every day.



MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- MLK Counselor is a National Certified Counselor (NCC)
- Presenter at Alabama Counselor Association (ALCA) Annual Conference (November 2014)
- Presenter at the 10th Annual Career Development Conference (February 2015)
- Implemented *No Place for Hate (NP4H8)* at MLK (2013-2015)
- Trained all faculty in (PBIS) Positive Behavior Intervention and Support to strengthen our anti-bullying program
- Developed and coordinated a Peer Helper program for fifth graders to work with kindergarten students to develop reading skills
- Worked with fourth and fifth grade SPACE gifted class to collect canned goods for Rose of Sharon Soup Kitchen
- Nominated for ALCA Sparks New Counselor of the Year Award
- Team leader for Huntsville City Schools Learning Supports Committee

ACADEMIC, CAREER, AND PERSONAL/SOCIAL MEASUREMENTS

Data is collected throughout the year and the assessment results are used by the SCSST to measure academic growth, attendance, and behavior. The results are used to ensure that all the student’s needs are being met.

Academic: The following assessments are used to identify areas of academic achievement to facilitate our Response to Intervention: *Dynamic Indicators of Basic Essential Literacy Skills (DIBELS, grades K-5)*, ACT Aspire (grades 3-5), SchoolNet Benchmark (grades K-5), STAR Enterprise Reading and Math Assessment (grades 1-5), The Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners (ACCESS), and Special Education Assessments to provide data about discrepancies between the students’ ability and achievement. **Career:** All students participated in Huntsville City Schools College and Career Readiness Week activities. Students in grades 4 and 5 developed career interests through a Career Clusters Interests Inventory lesson. They also researched career interests online through O*Net. **Personal/Social:** The school nurse conducts health screenings to identify any health barriers to student success, Parent/Teacher/Students needs assessments to determine the needs for our school to guide the Guidance Advisory Committee, and discipline and attendance records are tracked which helped identify students at risk.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS/RESOURCES

The collaboration of the MLK School Counselor with the Huntsville community and surrounding areas has greatly contributed to the success of students and provides valuable services to our families and staff.

Academic: Boys and Girls Club tutoring, Free to Teach provides supplies, Appleton Learning Center classroom aides, Girls Inc provides tutoring and after school mentoring, volunteer tutors. **Career:** Huntsville Fire Department for fire safety training, Community Speakers (fire, police, mayor) for Career events, Volunteer Tutors from Alabama A&M. **Personal/Social:** The Manna House provides weekend meal packs, United Way of Madison County provides at-home support, Anti-Defamation League supports our NP4H8 program, Crisis Services of North Alabama for mental health services, H.E.A.L.S. Clinic provides dental, vision, and health services on site.

PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

Parental involvement is highly encouraged at MLK to become a partner in their student’s success by participating in their academic, career, and personal/social development. Below are the many opportunities available to parents:

Parental participation on the Guidance Advisory Committee, completion of parent needs assessment, Parent Teacher Association (PTA) membership, Title I Annual Parent Meetings, chaperone for field trips, Field Day volunteers, and volunteer for tutoring.

Please contact Sarah Spear at sarah.spear@hsv-k12.org or by phone, (256) 428-7100 for more information.

FOCUS FOR IMPROVEMENT

The MLK school counseling program is committed to improving the department and aligning with the school’s improvement plan. For 2015-2016 we will: 1) provide additional training to staff and faculty, parents, and students on our PBIS and *No Place for Hate* to decrease bullying and increase acceptance in our school; 2) collaborate with teachers and administrators about increasing opportunities for student leadership through our *Leader in Me* program; and 3) create a stronger focus on career readiness through classroom guidance lessons and a school-wide Career Day.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

The MLK counseling program shares information with parents, students, faculty and the community through the following means:

Personal Contact: parent conferences, school tours, Open House, PTA meetings, faculty meetings, grade-level meetings, Problem Solving Team (PST) **Electronic:** MLK newsletter, email, phone calls, school counseling website, posts on Edmodo, school announcements, educational DVDs **Print:** *The Huntsville Times*, classroom newsletters, bulletin boards, school counselor pamphlet, school marquee, and written announcements sent home. All essential information is provided in the primary language(s) of the students’ families