

PREVENTION AT SCHOOL - STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The fundamental purpose of our educational process is to foster the intellectual, emotional, social and physical growth of each child. In fulfilling this purpose, the Glen Ridge Board of Education accepts the responsibility to provide support beyond the classroom experience. The Glen Ridge Student Assistance Program provides services that address the physical and emotional needs of our students. In particular, the program addresses the obstacles that interfere with the student's academic, social and personal success and growth.

The Student Assistance Counselor and School Nurse provide a unique partnership offering direct confidential services to students and their families, who are experiencing difficulties that interfere with a student's social, academic or physical well being. These services include crisis intervention, initial mental health and substance abuse assessments, referrals, and brief individual & group supportive counseling.

Student Assistance Personnel

Heather Kobylinski, M.A. Student Assistance Counselor (973) 743-6945
Donna Doria, RN. School Nurse (973) 429-8303 (973) 429-8300 x2252

Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS)

The Glen Ridge High School's I&RS team's mission is (1) to provide support and services and (2) to establish partnerships with the entire school community (students, teachers, and parents) in order to promote a successful academic career, and lifelong, healthy social, physical and emotional habits. The I&RS team is a school-based team which designs and monitors the implementation of strategies for assisting non-classified students who are experiencing academic difficulties. The I&RS team also provides confidential assessment, intervention and referral services for students experiencing emotional, social and/or substance abuse related concerns. The I&RS team is led by Student Assistance Counselor, Heather Kobylinski and includes,

Ken Rota, Principal	Tim Liddy Student, Athletics Director
Mary Lynn DePiero, Vice Principal MS	Jon Heitmann, Vice Principal HS
Bill Indek Guidance	Sue Nadel Guidance
Lindsey Deptula Guidance	Vivian Petrosino Guidance
Donna Doria Nurse	Cluny Tierney Teacher
Genine D'Andrea Teacher	Jenelle Hamer Teacher
Rachael Miscia Teacher	Erin Clark Teacher

Peer Leadership Program

Peer Leadership is committed to providing leadership for the Glen Ridge High School community via student directed activities and programs which foster a healthy learning and social environment. Peer Leaders, GRHS seniors selected by committee, are responsible for leading weekly small group discussions with 8th graders. As positive role models, they will help students understand the variety of roles and responsibilities they encounter in various life situations. They help students think through problems and explore alternatives. By doing so, they improve problem solving communication skills and increase self-confidence. Peer leaders are aware of and willing to examine their influence as a role model with underclassmen as well as their peers. As Seniors accepting selection into the program, they choose a drug and alcohol free lifestyle and uphold all school rules.

Drug and Alcohol Education Curriculum

The delivery of drug and alcohol education is integrated into the Glen Ridge School's health education. In grades K-12, our health instructors teach the students a variety of topics which are detailed in the curriculum and are both progressive and sequential in nature. In grades 7-12, students receive 10 clock hours of drug and alcohol education.

The development of a K-12 drug education curriculum for the Glen Ridge Public Schools is based on the following beliefs:

- An effective curriculum is one part of a total substance abuse program, which includes the three components of prevention, intervention and treatment.
- A drug education curriculum is most effective when it is integrated within a more comprehensive health education program that establishes a foundation for understanding the relationships between personal behaviors and health.
- An effective drug education curriculum should include both cognitive and affective components.
- An effective drug education curriculum should address;
 1. Substance use and abuse
 2. Self-awareness
 3. Interpersonal skills
 4. Decision making
- A drug education curriculum should reflect the needs, conditions, attitudes and values of a community.

Drug and Alcohol Education Curriculum

- A drug education curriculum should focus on preventing young people from initiating drug use through a developmentally appropriate program which introduces facts, concepts, and skills at the appropriate grade and maturity levels and reviews and develops these same concepts and skills on increasingly sophisticated levels in subsequent grades.
- Concepts taught in a drug education curriculum should develop a belief that, avoiding substance abuse is the healthy preferred choice if one is to lead a full rewarding life.
- An effective drug education program must be a cooperative effort involving parents and the community and thus, ongoing input and feedback is a welcomed component as the school and the home work jointly to provide our young people with the information and skills to make healthy lifestyle choices for their lives.
- Provisions will be made to modify the drug education program as changes occur in prevalent drugs of abuse, available medications, and findings based on program evaluations.

The Glen Ridge School District provides an alcohol and drug education curriculum that is awareness oriented and prevention motivated. The awareness and prevention components are included and developed in appropriate objectives in the curriculum that focus on the areas of substance abuse, self-awareness, interpersonal skills and decision making.

GLEN RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES

Please note that these policies are available on the school's website www.glenridge.org on the home page, right side, under information.

5530 Substance Abuse

The Board of Education recognizes that a pupil's abuse of harmful substances seriously impedes that pupil's education and threatens the welfare of the entire school community. The Board is committed to the prevention of substance abuse and the rehabilitation of substance abusers by educational means, but will take the necessary and appropriate steps to protect the school community from harm and from exposure to harmful substances. Accordingly, the Board will establish and maintain a comprehensive substance abuse intervention, prevention, and treatment referral program in the schools of this district.