



Accredited by the Western Association of Schools & Colleges

E.B. Leon Guerrero Middle School

Building #533 Juan Jacinto Road
Yigo, Guam 96929
Tel: (671) 653-2080



Jon J.P. Fernandez
Superintendent of Education

Dr. Patricia Taitano
Assistant Principal
6th Grade

Arlyn A. Espinosa
Assistant Principal
7th Grade

Sahlee M. Felisan
Assistant Principal
8th Grade

Melissa D. Mafnas
Principal

F.B. Leon Guerrero Middle School's mission is to respond to the unique needs of our students while exploring areas of individual potential and cultivating lifelong learning skills.

GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES AND CONFIDENTIALITY GUIDELINES

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Consistent with the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Ethical Standards, it is important to inform parents/guardians, who have the legal and inherent right to guide their child's life, of the services offered by school counselors. Guam Department of Education (GDOE) school counselors offer short-term individual counseling to students, as well as small group counseling, aimed at the more effective education and socialization of a child within the school community. These services are not intended as a substitute for diagnosis or treatment for any mental health disorder. Parents/Guardians or school staff may refer students for counseling, or students may request counseling for themselves.

This school year, your child will be offered school counseling services at F.B. Leon Guerrero Middle School as part of the student's in-school program. The types of services include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Academic Counseling
- ✓ College and Career Counseling
- ✓ Personal/Social-Emotional Counseling (supportive and not therapeutic)
- ✓ Classroom Guidance Curriculum
- ✓ Virtual School Counseling
- ✓ Case Management/Coordination
- ✓ Meetings with Parents/Family
- ✓ Individual and Small Group Planning
- ✓ Individual and Small Group Supportive Counseling (not therapeutic)

Skill areas may be addressed in these settings but are **NOT limited** to the following: Friendship and Social Skills; How To Be Successful in School; Dealing with Anger; Dealing with Anxiety; Dealing with Death, Sadness, and Loss; Learning Self Control; Improving Self Esteem; Leadership Skills; Coping Skills for Social and Emotional; Social and Emotional Education; Other Groups

- ✓ *Screeners (require an Informed Consent Form)
- ✓ School Counselor Assessments (Functional Behavioral Assessment, *Columbia Risk Assessment, and *other assessments that require an Informed Consent Form).

*Require an Informed Consent Form to be completed

If you DO NOT want your child to participate in the counseling services, please contact your school counselor by email listed below or (671) 653-2080.

Disclaimers:

- ❖ If parents/legal guardians choose to exclude their child from academic, career, or personal/social-emotional counseling, they shall have the sole responsibility to ensure that all academic and

graduation requirements are fulfilled, and that their child's personal/social-emotional well-being and needs are addressed.

❖ Should there be an emergency, or a school crisis and your child needs immediate supportive counseling, the refusal for counseling services does not apply. Parental permission is not required for counseling and/or crisis intervention needed to maintain order, discipline, or a productive learning environment.

CONFIDENTIALITY GUIDELINES FOR ALL STUDENTS

Your confidentiality as a student is important to us! In our school counseling office, what is said here, stays here, with the following exceptions, as required by law and/or ethical standards:

1. Harm to self or others

This could include things like a suicide attempt or plan, cutting or other self-injury, eating disorders, addictions, fighting or other physical violence, illegal behaviors, threats, etc. –anything that puts your health or safety, or someone else's health and safety, at risk.

2. Abuse or neglect

If you talk with one of us about abuse (physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, or other abuse), whether to yourself or to another minor, we are required by law to report it to Child Protective Services, and possibly the police. If you tell us about an abuse case that's already been addressed by CPS or the police, we still may need to make a call to double check.

3. Court or other legal proceedings

By law, if we are subpoenaed (required by law to attend a hearing or other court proceeding), we cannot guarantee that your information will be kept confidential. We will always do our best to reveal as little as possible in a legal setting, but we must cooperate with the police, CPS, and the courts.

If there is ever a need to reveal information, we will let you know in advance, and work with you to handle the situation in a way that respects you, your feelings, and your needs.

To build trust with the student, the school counselor will keep information confidential, with some exceptions. Because these services are provided to minor children in the school setting, the school counselor may share information with parents/guardians, the child's teacher, and/or administrators or school personnel who work with the child on a need to know basis, so that they may better assist the child as a team. The school counselor is also required by law to share information with parents or others in the event the child is in danger of harm to self or others. The school counselor will make the child aware in an age appropriate manner of the limits of confidentiality and will inform the child when sharing information with others.

6th Grade Counselor

Andrea R. Santos

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7th Grade Counselor

Mary T. Bais

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8th Grade Counselor

Carol S. Roldan

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