Bullock County Schools Comprehensive Counseling & Guidance Plan



Mr. Sean Dees Superintendent

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INTRODUCTION

Bullock County Schools is a unique rural community. All of our schools are fully accredited through AdvancEd. About 1200 students are enrolled in Bullock County Schools and over 90% of our school population receives free breakfast and lunch. We are a culturally diverse system. Bullock County Schools employ around 200 employees. We use state-of-the-art technology, which includes computers in classrooms, computer labs, Internet, distance learning classes, and virtual learning opportunities.

The Bullock County Guidance Department consists of 2 high school level counselors, 1 middle school counselors, and 1 elementary school counselors.

We are composed of four schools within the district. The four schools include Union Springs Elementary, South Highlands Middle School, Bullock County High School, and Bullock County Career Technical Center.

Union Springs Elementary School consists of grades Pre-K-4. The elementary school has one full-time counselor that serves a student population of 532 students.

South Highlands Middle School consists of grades 5-8. The middle school has one full-time counselor that serves a student population of 379 students.

Bullock County High School and Bullock County Career and Technology Center consists of grades 9-12. The high school and CTC has two full-time counselors that serve a student population of 446 students.

All of the counselors are supplied with the latest technology in order to implement their programs.

The Bullock County Schools Guidance Program is a 21st century school counseling program using the ThriveWay Curriculum. The guidance program is focused on meeting the needs of students. The state model provides information regarding program design, coordination, implementation, management, and evaluation with the goal of ensuring student success in three broad areas: academic, career, and personal/social development. These three areas or domains encompass the specific standards, competencies, and indicators for student learning. The program works with all students through classroom guidance activities and structured group experiences. The Bullock County Schools' guidance program ranges from remediation to prevention and from crisis-based to planned orientation. Approaches include classroom guidance and individual planning sessions with all students.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Bullock County School System is to facilitate learning in a safe, nurturing and developmental appropriate environments and to produce college and career-ready students.

The Bullock County Comprehensive Developmental Guidance and Counseling Program is based upon the following beliefs:

- All children are unique and can benefit from the counseling and guidance services described in the *Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools* (the State Plan), Bulletin 2003, No. 89.
- Every student has the right to participate in activities that promote self-direction and self-development.
- Every student has the right to make choices and accept responsibility for choices made.
- Every student has the right to participate in a comprehensive school counseling and guidance program designed to assist all students in attaining their maximum potential in academic, career, and personal/social development.

The Bullock County School District Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program is an integral part of the overall educational program and serves as a critical link to the instructional program and the community.

The program:

- Is data-driven to meet the specific needs of the student's goals and developmental competencies,
- Involves planning and coordination with other representatives of the school and community with a purposeful and sequential program of activities,
- Utilizes many combined resources of the community,
- Is evaluated on specific goals and agreed upon student competencies,
- Actively involves students and others.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Benefits for Students

- Ensures every student has access to the school counseling and guidance program
- Monitors and interprets data to facilitate student improvement and school success
- Provides strategies for closing the achievement gap
- Promotes the most challenging and appropriate academic curriculum for each student
- Advocates for students and promotes equitable access to educational opportunities

Benefits for Parents/Guardians

- Supports active partnerships for student learning and career planning
- Invites and coordinates access to school and community resources
- · Advocates for student academic, career, and personal development
- Provides training and informational workshops
- Provides data for information on student progress

Benefits for Teachers

- Promotes an interdisciplinary team approach to address student needs and educational goals
- Increases collaboration with school counselors and teachers
- Supports development of classroom management skills
- Analyzes data to improve school climate and student achievement

Benefits for Administrators

- Develops and implements a school counseling and guidance plan to promote student success
- Utilizes data for school improvement
- Uses data for implementation of the *Bullock County Teacher* evaluation system
- Provides a proactive school guidance curriculum that addresses student needs and enhances school climate

Benefits for School Counselors

- Defines responsibilities within the context of a school counseling and guidance program
- Eliminates non-school counseling program activities
- Supports access to every student
- Provides a tool for program management, implementation, and accountability
- Recognizes school counselors as leaders, advocates, and agents of change
- Ensures the school counseling and guidance program contributes to the school's mission

Benefits for Communities

- Builds collaboration with businesses and industries and enhances the potential for every student's postsecondary success
- Provides a workforce with a stronger academic foundation
- Promotes equity and access to the workforce

DELIVERY SYSTEM

The Bullock County Schools District Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program provides services in accordance with the four delivery components. A combination of the four program delivery components (School Guidance Curriculum, Individual Student Planning, Responsive Services, and System Support) is utilized in assisting students to achieve their competencies. This approach ensures that every student has multiple opportunities to acquire competencies in the three domains of Academic Development, Career Development, and Personal/Social Development.

Guidance Curriculum

The guidance curriculum component consists of structured developmental experiences presented systematically to all students through classroom and group activities that address the three primary domains (academic development, career development, and personal/social growth) of human development. The curriculum lessons focus on decision-making, goal setting, peer relationships, self-awareness, career awareness, the world of work, labor market information and educational and career planning. The counselor's responsibilities include the organization and implementation of classroom guidance lessons and group guidance. The counselors are involved with student orientation and parent orientation. They conduct small and large groups dealing with study skills, problem-solving, test taking skills, peer relationships, questioning skills, bullying, resume writing, goal setting, and many other topics.

<u>Classroom Guidance Activities</u>: Counselors facilitate, co-lead, or assist in the delivery of guidance curriculum activities. These activities may be conducted in the classroom, in the guidance center, or in other school facilities.

<u>Group Activities</u>: Counselors conduct small-group counseling sessions outside the classroom to respond to students' identified interests or needs. Small-group counseling may be either immediate-response or long-term counseling.

Interdisciplinary Curriculum Development: Counselors participate on interdisciplinary teams to develop and refine curriculum in content areas. These teams develop classroom units that integrate subject matter with the school guidance curriculum. Counselors assist teachers in the delivery of classroom units that lead to acquisition of competencies in the domains of affective, social, and employability skills for every student in developmentally appropriate ways.

<u>Parent Workshops</u>: Counselors conduct workshops and information sessions for parents or guardians to address the needs of the school community and to reflect the school counseling and guidance curriculum.

Topics for school guidance curriculum activities within this component may include, but are not limited to:

- Self-Awareness
- Effective Communication Skills
- Peer Relationships
- Substance Abuse Programs
- Post-High School Planning
- Career Awareness and Exploration
- Study Skills
- Decision-Making Skills
- Personal Safety
- Character Education
- Mental Health
- KUDER 4-Year Plans
- Goal Setting

- Pre-Employment Skills
- Diversity
- Anger Management
- Suicide Prevention
- Erin's Law/Child Abuse
- Bullying Prevention
- THRIVEWAY- P.A.T.H. Curriculum
- FAFSA
- Truancy
- District Transition Day (Program Induction)

Individual Student Planning

The individual student planning component consists of activities that focus on assisting each student with developing, analyzing, and evaluating educational, career, and personal goals/plans. Individual student planning emphasizes test interpretation, while academic counseling includes postsecondary education, career/technical education, and career planning. Examples of individual student planning delivery options within this component may include, but are not restricted to:

<u>Individual or Small-Group Appraisal</u>: Counselors help students assess and interpret individual abilities, interests, skills, and achievements. The utilization of appropriate assessment information becomes an important aspect of individual development of immediate and long-range plans.

Individual or Small-Group Advisement: Counselors help students acquire self appraisal skills; personal and social development skills; and educational, career, and labor market information. This information assists students in planning for personal, academic, and career aspirations. Counselors recognize the critical need to enlist teachers and parents or guardians in helping students make academic and career choices.

<u>Placement and Follow-Up</u>: Counselors advise students in making transitions by providing information and by assisting in the access of resources.

Topics for individual student planning activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Career Awareness and Exploration
- Career/Technology Education Programs
- Teacher Advisor Programs
- Career Shadowing
- Postsecondary Application Process
- Four-Year Educational Plan (Academic Counseling)
- Honors and Awards Program

- Financial Aid/Scholarship Advising
- Modeling Appropriate Behaviors
- Student Portfolios
- Team Building
- Goal Setting Attainment
- Social Development
- Healthy Coping Skills
- Mentorship

The counselors play a role in identifying at-risk students. At-risk students are identified by evaluating their academic record, discipline referrals, attendance, and state assessment data.

Additionally, Bullock County counselors coordinate, facilitate, and/or conduct the following activities:

- Building Testing Coordinator
- Individual advisement
- Educational placement of students
- Program planning (parents and students)
- Review and distribute test results
- New student registration
- Educational and career plans (including a four/six year plan that covers graduation requirements)
- Career interest inventories
- Transcript Audits
- Cumulative Records Review
- Register and withdraw students
- Issues schedules and make necessary adjustments
- Maintain student records
- Provide requested student information to appropriate agencies on a continuous basis
- Assist with college selection and admission
- Financial aid workshops
- Acquiring scholarship information
- Career fairs
- Career portfolios
- Personal and social issues that affect school performance and future plans

The counselor assists in the identification of at-risk and special needs students. At-risk students are identified by evaluating their academic record, discipline referrals, attendance, and state assessment data. The counselors are responsible for the organization of state assessments. Counselors may assist with the interpretation of assessments given at their school. These test include but are not limited to:

- PreACT
- ACT with Writing
- ASVAB
- ACAP Summative
- ACAP Alternate
- AIMS Web
- ACT WorkKeys
- AP Exam
- WID

Responsive Services

Responsive services include counseling or referral activities that meet the immediate needs and concerns of students. Responsive services include personal counseling, crisis counseling, problem solving, agency referral, and consultation. Examples of responsive services delivery options within this component may include, but are not restricted to:

<u>Consultation</u>: School counselors serve as student advocates by consulting with students, parents or guardians, educators, and community agencies regarding strategies to help students and families. Advocacy may include participation in student study teams and student management teams.

Personal Counseling: Counseling is provided in small-group or individual settings for students experiencing difficulties dealing with relationships, personal concerns, or developmentally appropriate tasks. Personal counseling assists students in identifying problems, causes, alternatives, and consequences leading to informed decision making.

<u>Crisis Counseling</u>: Counseling and support services are provided to students and families facing emotional crises as outlined in the school crisis management plan. Crisis counseling is normally short-term and temporary, using appropriate referral sources if necessary.

<u>Peer Facilitation</u>: Counselors may train students as peer mediators, conflict managers, tutors, and mentors. Programs should adhere to the ethics standards and practices established by the National Peer Helpers Association.

Referrals: Counselors use referral sources to enhance the services provided through the school counseling and guidance program. These referral sources may include, but are not restricted to:

- Mental Health Agencies
- Employment and Training Programs
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Juvenile Services
- Social Services
- Deployment Services for Military Families

Bullock County school counselors strive to include activities that meet the immediate needs and concerns of individual students whether those concerns involve individual or group counseling, information dissemination, crisis intervention, peer mediation, consultation or referral. When cases are identified that require outside, emergency, long-term, and/or intensive treatment, the counselors work closely with the school nurses, the system social worker, school resource officers, the juvenile court system, local hospice, local mental health providers, and the Bullock County Department of Human Resources. Some of the local agencies that are used for student

referral include the Bradford Center, East Central Mental Health, Bullock County Juvenile and Family Court, Pike County Child Advocacy Center, the Bullock County Department of Human Resources, and therapeutic programs (Seraaj Family Homes, Inc, SAFY, and Sevita- AL Mentor).

System Support

System support includes indirect guidance management activities that maintain and enhance the total counseling and guidance program. Responsibilities in this area include staff relations, community relations, task forces, professional development, support teams, test interpretation, data analysis, and curriculum development. This component provides appropriate support to academic programs. Examples of system support delivery options within this component may include, but are not restricted to:

Professional Development: Counselors are regularly involved in updating professional knowledge and skills. This may involve participating in regular school in-service training, attending professional meetings, completing postgraduate course work, and contributing to professional journals.

In-Service: Counselors, Career Coaches, Mental Health Staff, and Social Workers attend system and school in-service training to ensure counseling skills are updated in the areas of curriculum development, technology, and data analysis. Counselors, Career Coaches, Mental Health Staff, and Social Workers may provide in-service instruction in school guidance curriculum and areas of special concern to the school and community.

<u>Consultation, Collaboration, and Teaming:</u> Counselors, Career Coaches, Mental Health Staff, and Social Workers provide important contributions to the school system by consulting, partnering, collaborating, and teaming.

<u>Public Relations</u>: Counselors, Career Coaches, Mental Health Staff, and Social Workers design activities to orient the staff and community about the comprehensive school counseling and guidance program.

<u>Community Outreach</u>: Counselors, Career Coaches, Mental Health Staff, and Social Workers forge partnerships with local businesses, industries, and social service agencies. Community outreach requires counselors to be knowledgeable about community resources, employment opportunities, and local labor market information.

<u>Consultation with Staff</u>: Counselors, Career Coaches, Mental Health Staff, and Social Workers consult regularly with teachers and professional staff members in order to receive feedback on emerging needs of students and to provide information and support to staff.

<u>Curriculum Development Support</u>: Counselors participate in the ongoing review and revision of academic curriculum materials as related to data analysis, student advocacy, postsecondary education, and career/technical education planning.

Advisory Committees: Counselors, Career Coaches, Mental Health Staff, and Social Workers form counseling and guidance advisory committees at the system level. Counselors, Career Coaches, Mental Health Staff, and Social Workers actively serve on community committees or advisory councils that influence other programs to generate support for system counseling and guidance programs.

<u>Program Management and Operations</u>: Planning and management tasks include the support of activities conducted in the school counseling and guidance program. These responsibilities are expected of members on the school staff. Budget, facilities, policies, procedures, research and resource development are elements of management activities.

Research and Evaluation: Some examples of counselor research and evaluation include program evaluations, data analysis, follow-up studies, professional development, and updating of resources.

<u>Fair-Share Responsibilities</u>: Fair-share responsibilities may include such tasks as class/club sponsorship and taking tickets at sports events. Non-guidance responsibilities assigned to counselors should not be above and beyond those of other certified staff members, and should not interfere with the delivery of guidance services.

In the Bullock County School System, the system support component activities are two-fold. The first includes those activities that establish, maintain and enhance the preceding three program components. Activities in this component include program development, program evaluation and assessment, parent education, materials development, testing and community relations. The second aspect of the system support component includes activities that support other programs in the school. Those activities include, but are not limited to:

- ESL Coach/Parent Liaison
- Building Test Coordinators
- Continuing Improvement Plan (CIP) Committee Member
- School 504 Member
- IEP Team Member
- Initial Referral Process
- Special Projects Team Member
- Response to Instruction Team (RTI) Member
- Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) Team Member

Bullock County Schools Counselors register students, withdraw students, schedule students, assist administrators and teachers with identifying student needs, serve on school and curriculum committees, etc. The counselors conduct classroom guidance assessments and utilize that data to analyze its impact. They collaborate with teachers in determining the factors that are impeding the success of students and conduct follow-up assessments of the students.

The counselors play a role in identifying at-risk students. At-risk students are identified by evaluating their academic record, discipline referrals, attendance, state assessment data and are partnered with appropriate school or District resources. Guidance counselors in Bullock County Schools collaborate with many community agencies and programs. Some of those agencies and programs include but are not limited to:

- Department of Human Resources (DHR)
- Red Cross
- Relay for Life
- Heart of Alabama Food Bank
- Bullock County NAACP Chapter
- East Central Mental Health
- Bullock County Juvenile Court
- Boy Scouts of America
- Auburn University Extension 4-H
- Girls' Scout of America
- Associated Grocers' of Union Springs
- Bonnie's Plant Farm
- Wallace Community College
- Trenholm Community College
- Joint projects with Auburn University, Tuskegee University, local firefighters, and EMS

When funding is made available, the counselors continue professional growth by attending seminars, workshops, in-services, and completing classes to maintain certification with the State Department of Education, the National Board of Certified Counselors, and The National Board of Certified School Counselors. Many of the Bullock County counselors hold membership in the Alabama Counseling Association and the American School Counselor Association.

STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS

In order to ensure that the Bullock County Schools Guidance and Counseling Program is an integral part of the total school system and community, a comprehensive developmental guidance and counseling program is implemented at each school level (K-12) and appropriate policies and procedures are in place to maintain, enhance, and evaluate the district's guidance and counseling program. An advisory committee provides input and support for the program. Each school's guidance department has a certified school counselor that is also assisted by their advisory committee.

Advisory Committee

The district advisory committee for the Bullock County School System consists of representative stakeholders of the school counseling and guidance program, including students, parents and/or guardians, teachers, counselors, school social workers, mental health staff, administrators, school board members, as well as business and community representatives. The advisory committee reviews program goals, competencies, and results, and participates in making recommendations to the school counseling and guidance department, principal, and superintendent. It is recommended that the committee meet at least twice a year.

Counseling and Guidance Department Organization

At the beginning of the school year, counselors meet with principals regarding the counseling and guidance program. If there are two or more counselors in the school, specific/equitable duties and student caseloads are assigned. Each LEA should have a counseling coordinator to work with principals and counselors to ensure that program planning, design, implementation, and evaluation take place in a timely, effective, and equitable manner.

All schools must provide counseling and guidance services from certified school counselors in Grades K-12. Adequate support personnel should be available to counselors to ensure effective program delivery.

Coordinators' Role

Coordination and direction of the LEA's comprehensive counseling and guidance program is critical. Counseling and guidance coordinators provide necessary support for comprehensive school guidance program development, implementation, and evaluation of procedures that enhance the effectiveness of the school system's comprehensive counseling and guidance program. Counseling and guidance coordinators serve as facilitators, leaders, supporters, and advisors. Counseling and guidance coordinators provide leadership to ensure the credibility of the comprehensive counseling and guidance program for faculty, staff, and the community under the supervision of the assistant superintendents for elementary and secondary curriculum.

Principals' Role

Administrative support is critical to full implementation of the comprehensive counseling and guidance program. Principals, as chief administrators in schools, are ultimately responsible for the success of all instructional programs, including the school counseling and guidance program. Principals understand the role of school counselors and provide the necessary support for counselors to fulfill that role. Such support includes the provision of adequate facilities, materials, and clerical staff to allow counselors to use their specialized training in an effective manner. Principals provide input into program development and encourage and support participation of all school personnel in the implementation of the counseling and guidance program.

Counselors' Role

Counselors assume the leadership role for managing and implementing the comprehensive counseling and guidance program in their school. Counselors are responsible for the systematic delivery and evaluation of structured developmental counseling and guidance services to all students. Counselors work directly with students, individually and in small groups, to deal with unique or problem-centered concerns that require more privacy or attention that can be accommodated in structured guidance activities. Counselors serve students indirectly by acting as consultants to administrators, teachers, parents, and others to help them understand and respond to the developmental, emotional, and social needs of students. Counselors coordinate various activities within the school that are related to student welfare. Appropriate referrals, placements, and follow-ups are activities that are particularly pertinent to counseling. Also, Counselors collaborate with Mental Health Staff and Social Workers to meet the needs of the students.

Elementary School Counselors

Elementary school counselors assist students with learning the skills and attitudes necessary to be successful in school. They emphasize to students that the classroom is their workplace and that communication, decision-making, interpersonal and career awareness skills are important to their success.

Middle School Counselors

Building upon those skills taught at the elementary level, a major focus of middle school counselors is to provide services that address the career, personal/social and educational needs and concerns of students. Counselors at this level facilitate the expansion of career awareness and exploration activities to assist in the development and utilization of short and long-range educational and career plans. This includes but is not limited to the formation of a high school four year plan.

High School Counselors

High school counselors work with students in acquiring guidance competencies that form the foundation for the next educational and occupational levels. The counselors assist students in developing realistic educational and career plans based on a clear understanding of themselves, their needs, interests, skills, and abilities.

Teachers' Role

Teachers play a vital role in the planning and implementation of a comprehensive school counseling and guidance program. As professionals who have the greatest contact with students, teachers are in the best position to recognize and help provide for the developmental and individual needs of students. Through appropriate communication and referral, teachers facilitate the interaction between students and counselors. Teachers demonstrate support for the program by providing adequate opportunities for student-counselor contact. Teachers contribute directly to the school counseling and guidance program by helping counselors deliver programs that facilitate the academic, career, and personal/social development of students. Teachers strengthen and follow through on concepts presented to help students retain the knowledge, skills, and understanding established through the program. Teacher support, input, and expertise make it possible for the school counseling and guidance program to become an integral part of the total educational program.

Guidance Resources

Appropriate guidance resources are required for each of the four program delivery components: School Guidance Curriculum, Individual Student Planning, Responsive Services, and System Support. These resources include equipment and materials, staff expertise, and community resources. Resource materials must be relevant to the program, appropriate for the diversity of the school and community, and of sufficient quantity to be useful. All counselors should be provided the necessary equipment and materials to implement the comprehensive counseling and guidance program.

Materials, Supplies, and Equipment

- Materials are relevant to the program and appropriate for the community.
- The school counselor consults with the advisory committee and the local school board policy concerning the evaluation and selection of program materials.
- Materials, supplies and equipment are easily accessible and of sufficient quantity to support the program.
- All school counselors have locking file cabinets, private telephone lines, and computers with Internet access in their offices.
- Access to student cumulative record files, student assessment files, and students attendance records

Facilities

- All facilities are easily accessible and provide adequate space to organize and display school counseling materials.
- The school counselor has a private office that is designed with consideration of the student's right to privacy and confidentiality.
- Access is provided to facilities for meeting with groups of students.

Technology

- School counselors use technology daily in their work, including the Internet, word processing, student database systems, and presentation software.
- School counselors use technology to help students perform career and advanced educational searches for use in their education development plans.
- School counselors register, withdraw and evaluate transcripts for students using the PowerSchool program.
- School counselors use data regarding their school population to work with the principal, teachers, and the advisory committee in making recommendations to improve academic achievement.
- School counselors receive ongoing training in appropriate areas of technology advancement and updates.
- Some school counselors maintain an up-to-date guidance website with pertinent information for students and parents.
- School counselors use technology in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the school counseling program.
- School counselors use technology as a tool to gather, analyze and present data to drive systematic change.
- School counselors communicate with teachers, administrators, central office, outside agency representatives, and other counselors via email.

Use of Time

The Bullock County school counselors utilize the Alabama State Department of Education's recommended distribution counseling time as a guide in determining the adequate percentage of service to be provided in each program area. The counselors keep daily records that document time and activities performed. These records allow counselors and administrators to determine the actual amount of time spent in each of the four program delivery components and in nonschool counseling activities. By analyzing this data, adjustments can be made to better utilize counselor time so that the greatest amount of time is spent in direct service to students.

	,	Percentage Rate	
	Elementary School	Middle/Junior High School	High School
School Guidance Curriculum	35-45	25—35	15—25
Individual Student Planning	5—10	15—25	25—35
Responsive Services	30-40	30-40	25—35
System Support	10—15	10—15	15-20
	100	100	100

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL COUNSELOR TIME: Reprinted with permission, Gysbers, N.C., and Henderson, P. (2000). *Developing and Managing Your School Guidance Program*, (3rd ed.), Alexandria, Va.: American Counseling Association.

PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of the Bullock County Schools District Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program are defined as follows:

The Academic Domain states that students will:

- 1. Acquire the attitudes, knowledge and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and throughout life.
- 2. Complete school with academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial post-secondary options, including college.
- 3. Understand the relationship of academics to the world of work and to life at home and in the community.

The Career Domain states that students will:

- 1. Acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions.
- 2. Employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction.
- 3. Understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training and the world of work.

The Personal/Social Domain states that students will:

- 1. Acquire the knowledge, attitudes and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others.
- 2. Make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals.
- 3. Understand safety and survival skills.

GUIDANCE CURRICULUM SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

The following competencies for Alabama students at each grade-cluster level (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12) are linked directly to the nine national standards as presented in *The ASCA National Model: A Framework for School Counseling Programs*. The competencies describe the attitudes, knowledge, and skills that students should be able to demonstrate as a result of participating in an effective school counseling and guidance program.

Counselors should determine the student competencies and the corresponding indicators (listed below each competency) to be utilized in planning and developing the school guidance curriculum and the individual student planning components appropriate for specific grade-cluster levels within the school program. Guidance activities must be outcome-based and linked to the appropriate indicators.

The following chart is a tool to be used to assist counselors in planning the overall guidance curriculum. The solid dots highlight the grade-cluster level where each competency indicator is introduced. The competency indicators are intended to be cumulative; therefore, the hollow dots highlight the grade-cluster level(s) in which the competency indicator may be expanded or reinforced. Careful analysis of the scope and sequence of the local school guidance curriculum ensures that all students master all competency indicators by the end of Grade 12.

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

Standard A: Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and across the life span.

Competer	ncy A:A1	Improve Academic Self-Concept				
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
A:A1.1	articulate f learners	eelings of competence and confidence as		•	0	0
A:A1.2	display a p	ositive interest in learning	•	0	0	0
A:A1.3	take pride	in work and achievement	•	0	0	0
A:A1.4	accept mis	takes as essential to the learning process		•	0	0
A:A1.5	identify att	itudes and behaviors leading to successful			•	0
Competer	ncy A:A2	Acquire Skills for Improving Learning				
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
A:A2.1	apply time	-management and task-management skills			•	0
A:A2.2	demonstrate learning	te how effort and persistence positively affect		•	0	0
A:A2.3		unications skills to know when and how to p when needed	•	0	0	0
A:A2.4	* * *	wledge and learning styles to positively chool performance			•	0

Competency A:A3 Achieve School Success							
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	
A:A3.1	take respon	sibility for their success	•	0	0	0	
A:A3.2		te the ability to work independently, as well ty to work cooperatively with other students		•	0	0	
A:A3.3	develop a l	proad range of interests and abilities			•	0	
A:A3.4	demonstrat	e dependability, productivity and initiative		•	0	0	
A:A3.5	share know	rledge		•	0	0	

Standard B: Students will complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial postsecondary options, including college.

Competer	ncy A:B1 Improve Learning				
		K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
A:B1.1	demonstrate the motivation to achieve individual potential		•	0	0
A:B1.2	learn and apply critical-thinking skills		•	0	0
A:B1.3	apply the study skills necessary for academic success each level	s at •	0	0	0
A:B1.4	seek information and support from faculty, staff, fam and peers	nily		•	0
A:B1.5	organize and apply academic information from variety of sources	ı a		•	0
A:B1.6	use knowledge of learning styles to positively influer school performance	nce		•	0
A:B1.7	become a self-directed and independent learner		•	0	0
Competer	ncy A:B2 Plan to Achieve Goals				
		K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
A:B2.1	establish challenging academic goals in elementary, middle/junior high and high school		•	•	•
A:B2.2	use assessment results in educational planning			•	0
A:B2.3	develop and implement annual plan of study to maximize academic ability and achievement			•	•
A:B2.4	apply knowledge of aptitudes and interests to goal setting			•	0
A:B2.5	use problem-solving and decision-making skills assess progress toward educational goals	to		•	0
A:B2.6	understand the relationship between classroom performance and success in school	•	0	0	0
A:B2.7	identify postsecondary options consistent with interest achievement, aptitude and abilities	sts,		•	0

Standard C: Students will understand the relationship of academics to the world of work and to life at home and in the community.

Competer	ncy A:C1	Relate School to Life Experience				
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
A:C1.1		e the ability to balance school, studies, ular activities, leisure time and family life		•	0	0
A:C1.2		urricular and community experiences to e school experience			•	0
A:C1.3	understand	the relationship between learning and work	•	0	0	0
A:C1.4		e an understanding of the value of lifelong essential to seeking, obtaining and g life goals			•	0
A:C1.5		that school success is the preparation to ransition from student to community member			•	0
A:C1.6		how school success and academic nt enhance future career and vocational es		•	0	0

CAREER DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

Standard A: Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions.

Competer	ncy C:A1	Developing Career Awareness				
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
C:A1.1	develop sk information	ills to locate, evaluate and interpret career			•	0
C:A1.2		learn about the variety of traditional and nontraditional occupations		0	0	0
C:A1.3		awareness of personal abilities, skills, and motivations	•	0	0	0
C:A1.4	learn how	to interact and work cooperatively in teams		•	0	0
C:A1.5	learn how	to make decisions		•	0	0
C:A1.6	learn how	to set goals		•	0	0
C:A1.7	understand	the importance of planning			•	0
C:A1.8	pursue and	develop competency in areas of interest			•	0
C:A1.9	develop ho	bbies and vocational interests	•	0	0	0
C:A1.10	balance be	tween work and leisure time		•	0	0

Compete	ncy C:A2	Develop Employment Readiness				
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12

C:A2.1	acquire employability skills such as working on a team and problem-solving and organizational skills			•	0
C:A2.2	apply job readiness skills to seek employment opportunities				•
C:A2.3	demonstrate knowledge about the changing workplace				•
C:A2.4	learn about the rights and responsibilities of employers and employees				•
C:A2.5	learn to respect individual uniqueness in the workplace				•
C:A2.6	learn how to write a resume				•
C:A2.7	develop a positive attitude toward work and learning	•	0	0	0
C:A2.8	understand the importance of responsibility, dependability, punctuality, integrity and effort in the workplace			•	0
C:A2.9	utilize time- and task-management skills	•	0	0	0

Standard B: Students will employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction.

Compete	ncy C:B1	Acquire Career Information				
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
C:B1.1	11 2	sion-making skills to career planning, course nd career transition			•	0
C:B1.2		rsonal skills, interests and abilities and relate rrent career choice	•	0	0	0
C:B1.3	demonstrat	te knowledge of the career-planning process			•	0
C:B1.4	know the v	rarious ways in which occupations can be		•	0	0
C:B1.5	use researc	h and information resources to obtain career			•	0
C:B1.6	learn to use	e the Internet to access career-planning			•	0
C:B1.7		aditional and nontraditional career choices bey relate to career choice		•	0	0
C:B1.8		how changing economic and societal needs imployment trends and future training			•	0
Compete	ncy C:B2	Identify Career Goals				
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
C:B2.1		te awareness of the education and training achieve career goals	•	0	0	0
C:B2.2		modify their educational plan to support				•
C:B2.3		vability and job readiness skills in internship, shadowing and/or other work experience			•	0
C:B2.4	select cour	se work that is related to career interests			•	0

C:B2.5	maintain a career-planning portfolio			•	0
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Standard C: Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training and the world of work.

Compete	ncy C:C1	Acquire Knowledge to Achieve Career Go	oals			
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
C:C1.1		the relationship between educational nt and career success	•	0	0	0
C:C1.2	explain hor and satisfa	w work can help to achieve personal success		•	0	0
C:C1.3	• •	ersonal preferences and interests influencing ce and success			•	0
C:C1.4		that the changing workplace requires arning and acquiring new skills			•	0
C:C1.5	describe th	e effect of work on lifestyle			•	0
C:C1.6	understand career choi	the importance of equity and access in ce		•	0	0
C:C1.7		that work is an important and satisfying ersonal expression	•	0	0	0
Compete	ncy C:C2	Apply Skills to Achieve Career Goals		•	•	•
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
C:C2.1		the how interests, abilities and achievement chieving personal, social, educational and s		•	0	0
C:C2.2	learn how and adults	to use conflict management skills with peers	•	0	0	0
C:C2.3	learn to wo	ork cooperatively with others as a team		•	0	0
C:C2.4	work-base	emic and employment readiness skills in d learning situations such as internships, and/or mentoring experiences			•	0

PERSONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

Standard A: Students will acquire the knowledge, attitudes and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others.

Competen	cy PS:A1	Acquire Self-Knowledge				
			K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
PS:A1.1	develop po worthy per	ositive attitudes toward self as a unique and son	•	0	0	0
PS:A1.2	identify values, attitudes and beliefs		•	0	0	0
PS:A1.3	learn the go	oal-setting process		•	0	0

PS:A1.4	understand change is a part of growth	•	0	0	0
PS:A1.5	identify and express feelings	•	0	0	0
PS:A1.6	distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate behavior	•	0	0	0
PS:A1.7	recognize personal boundaries, rights and privacy needs	•	0	0	0

Competen	cy PS:A1 Acquire Self-Knowledge (Continued)				
PS:A1.8	understand the need for self-control and how to practice it	•	0	0	0
PS:A1.9	demonstrate cooperative behavior in groups		•	0	0
PS:A1.10	identify personal strengths and assets		•	0	0
PS:A1.11	identify and discuss changing personal and social roles		0		
PS:A1.12	identify and recognize changing family roles	•	0	0	0
Competen	cy PS:A2 Acquire Interpersonal Skills				
		K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
PS:A2.1	recognize that everyone has rights and responsibilities		0	0	0
PS:A2.2	respect alternative points of view		•	0	0
PS:A2.3	recognize, accept, respect and appreciate individual differences		0	0	0
PS:A2.4	recognize, accept and appreciate ethnic and cultural diversity		0	0	0
PS:A2.5	recognize and respect differences in various family configurations		0	0	0
PS:A2.6	use effective communication skills		0	0	0
PS:A2.7	know that communication involves speaking, listening and nonverbal behavior	•	0	0	0
PS:A2.8	learn how to make and keep friends	•	0	0	0

Standard B: Students will make decisions, set goals and take necessary action to achieve goals.

Competency PS:B1 Self-Knowledge Application						
	1		K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
PS:B1.1	use a decision-making and problem-solving model			•	0	0
PS:B1.2	understand consequences of decisions and choices •		•	0	0	0
PS:B1.3	identify alternative solutions to a problem •		0	0	0	
PS:B1.4	develop effective coping skills for dealing with problems		•	0	0	0
PS:B1.5	1		0	0	0	
PS:B1.6	know how to	apply conflict-resolution skills	•	0	0	0
PS:B1.7	demonstrate a and cultural d	respect and appreciation for individual ifferences	•	0	0	0
PS:B1.8	know when po	eer pressure is influencing a decision	•	0	0	0

PS:B1.9	identify long- and short-term goals		•	0
PS:B1.10	identify alternative ways of achieving goals		•	0
PS:B1.11	use persistence and perseverance in acquiring knowledge and skills	•	0	0
PS:B1.12	develop an action plan to set and achieve realistic goals		•	0

Standard C: Students will understand safety and survival skills.

Competency PS:C1 Acquire Personal Safety Skills					
	1	K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
PS:C1.1	demonstrate knowledge of personal information (telephone number, home address, emergency contact)	•	0	0	0
PS:C1.2	learn about the relationship between rules, laws, safety and the protection of rights of the individual	•	0	0	0
PS:C1.3	learn about the differences between appropriate and inappropriate physical contact	•	0	0	0
PS:C1.4	demonstrate the ability to set boundaries, rights and personal privacy		•	0	0
PS:C1.5	differentiate between situations requiring peer support and situations requiring adult professional help		•	0	0
PS:C1.6	identify resource people in the school and community, and know how to seek their help	•	0	0	0
PS:C1.7	apply effective problem-solving and decision-making skills to make safe and healthy choices	•	0	0	0
PS:C1.8	learn about the emotional and physical dangers of substance use and abuse	•	0	0	0
PS:C1.9	learn how to cope with peer pressure		•	0	0
PS:C1.10	learn techniques for managing stress and conflict	•	0	0	0
PS:C1.11	learn coping skills for managing life events			•	0

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE PROGRAMS IN ALABAMA

School counselors function in a manner consistent with the educational philosophy and mission of the school system and the school. As a member of the educational team, each counselor has special responsibilities for helping all students meet their needs. School counselors provide a comprehensive counseling and guidance program for students; consult and collaborate with teachers, parents, and staff to enhance their effectiveness in helping students; and follow the Minimum Requirements for Comprehensive School Counseling and Guidance Programs in Alabama.

Organizational Framework, Activities, and Time

- 1. Every school system and school must implement a comprehensive counseling and guidance program that:
 - a. Ensures that each counselor develops and follows a planned calendar of activities;
 - b. Ensures that 80 percent of each counselor's time is spent in providing guidance services through the four program delivery components: School Guidance Curriculum, Individual Student Planning, Responsive Services, and System Support.
 - c. Ensures that each counselor participates annually in a planned professional development program designed to strengthen identified needs of the counseling and guidance program and/or the counselor as well as to foster ethical standards.
- 2. Every school system and school must provide for performance-based evaluation of counselors. The elements of this evaluation must conform to the duties and responsibilities of the counselor as stated in the *Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance State Model for Alabama Public Schools* (the State Plan), Bulletin 2003, No. 89.
- 3. Every school system and school should make provisions for new counselors to attend the Alabama Department of Education Counselor Academy as well as encourage experienced counselors to attend this professional development opportunity.
- 4. Every school system and school must establish a counseling and guidance advisory committee to assist in the development and implementation of the comprehensive counseling and guidance program.

Competencies

5. Every school system and school must implement a comprehensive counseling and guidance program that ensures that every student has the opportunity to achieve the minimum competencies at each appropriate grade level.

Structural Components

- 6. All schools must provide counseling and guidance services performed by certified school counselors for all students in Grades PreK-12.
- 7. Every school system and school must implement a comprehensive counseling and guidance program and ensure that a person is appointed at the system level to coordinate and monitor the delivery of counseling and guidance services to all students.

School Guidance Curriculum

- 8. Every school system and school must implement a comprehensive counseling and guidance program that:
 - Ensures that each counselor engages in counseling with students in small groups to influence responsible student behavior and enhance student academic achievement; and
 - b. Ensures that each counselor implements a planned sequential program of large group guidance activities designed to teach students the competencies identified in the three domains of Academic Development, Career Development, and Personal/Social Development in a fashion that enhances the instructional program and focuses on increasing student achievement. Also, Counselors will provide lessons from the THRIVEWAY P.A.T.H. curriculum.
 - c. Bullock County School Counselors are required to conduct small group sessions as well as address individual needs of students. Data indicates that small group counseling is a more effective means of serving students, and it decreases the number of individual sessions needed. Counselors can conduct 2-3 small groups (20-40 minutes in duration within a 4-6 week period) when the need is evident and/or when students have been referred.

Individual Student Planning

9. Every school system and school must implement a comprehensive counseling and guidance program that:

- a. Ensures that each counselor engages in counseling with students in individual settings that facilitate responsible student behavior and enhance student academic achievement;
- b. Ensures that each Grades, PreK- 4, 5-8, and 9-12 counselor guides students in the development and annual revision of a high school four-year educational plan and requires students to maintain an educational/career planning portfolio of study based on legislative and other graduation requirements. (The selection of the high school four-year educational plan shall be provided in writing to the parents or guardians and become part of the educational/career planning portfolio).
- c. Ensures that each counselor demonstrates accurate and appropriate interpretation of assessment data and the presentation of relevant, and unbiased information.
- d. Ensures that each counselor provides equal access and appropriate placement for all students by utilizing test data and other available information that identifies interests, achievement levels, and aptitudes.

Responsive Services

- 10. Every counselor will assist in the early identification of students at risk of school failure and must facilitate the delivery of preventive and interventive services.
- 11. Every counselor must consult with students, parents, teachers, community agencies, and others (nurses, attendance officers, school psychologists, school social workers) regarding strategies to help students achieve personal and academic advancement.

System Support

- 12. Every school system and school must implement a comprehensive counseling and guidance program that:
 - a. Ensures that each counselor organizes and manages the counseling and guidance program to provide equal access and the most effective delivery of services to students, staff, parents, and the community;
 - b. Conducts systematic evaluations and follow-up studies to determine the need for program revision;
 - c. Promotes awareness of the program components to students, staff, and the community; and
 - d. Ensures that each counselor coordinates guidance services with all aspects of the school program in conjunction with other school staff and community resources.

Resources

- 13. Every school system and school must provide facilities that are easily accessible and allow for the implementation of a comprehensive counseling and guidance program. Minimum facility requirements for delivery of counseling and guidance services include facilities that:
 - a. Provide private office(s) properly equipped with locked files for counseling records, working technology, access to student cumulative records,
 - b. Provide private telephone line(s) for confidential telephone conversations,
 - c. Are adequate in size for conducting small-group counseling and classroom guidance activities, and
 - d. Ensure adequate space for reception areas and for organizing and displaying guidance Thrive Way materials.
- 14. Every school system and school must provide resource materials that are relevant to the program, appropriate for the community, and of sufficient quantity to be useful.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability and evaluation of school counselors and the school counseling and guidance programs are integral components of quality programs. Alabama's comprehensive school counseling and guidance programs should be data driven. Data should be collected to validate certain counseling and guidance activities as well as to determine if any change in student perception and behavior has occurred as a result of counseling and guidance activities. The monitoring of student progress and program progress in addition to performing personnel evaluations requires the collection of data that support and link school counseling and guidance programs to students' academic success.

Counselor/Principal Management Agreements

The counselor/principal annual administrative agreement is a unique process to the Bullock County comprehensive guidance and counseling process. It is one of the single most important documentation outcomes that includes students, staff, parents, and the counselor's own professional development. The counselor completes the agreement at the beginning of the year and revisits the agreement during the second term of the school year for revisions if needed. Assignments are made by each counselor specifying the results and plan of operation for which she/he will be accountable. The counselor specifies how the students will access him/her: alpha assignments, domain specialization, grade level, random, counselor of the day, etc. Each assignment has a separate area where the counselor identifies the percentage of his/her time that he/she will spend providing services within the four delivery components. The principal, or his/her designee, is active in the negotiation of the agreement. Each counselor sends a copy of the agreement to the district counseling coordinator. The district guidance coordinator audits the agreements to assure compliance.

Yearly Calendars

Each school's guidance and counseling department must have a yearly calendar of its guidance events. The calendar includes each month's activities including the name of the activity and the targeted grade level for which the activity is planned. The calendar shows the overall picture and time frame of the guidance and counseling program. The calendars should be used to publicize planned events to let the school community know what is happening in the guidance and counseling department. The calendars should be distributed to teachers, administrators, and parents. Calendars should be posted in the guidance and main offices for parents and students to view. Calendars should be posted to the school's website.

Contact Logs

The Bullock County School guidance counselors must maintain records of their daily contacts with students, teachers, parents, and outside agencies. Counselors should use a log that allows them to easily tally the types of services provided and the appropriate program delivery component.

Monitoring Student Progress

Student Data

Using student, school, and system data to monitor student progress ensures that each student receives the necessary support to be successful in school. School counselors may be proficient in the collection and interpretation of student achievement and related data. Student progress is monitored through three types of data: student-achievement data, achievement-related data, and standards- and competency-related data.

Student-achievement data measures academic progress. Data includes:

- Standardized test data
- Grade point averages
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College w/ Writing Testing (ACT) Program scores
- PreACT
- ACT Workkeys
- Graduation rate
- Grade level (at or above) in reading, math, and other content areas
- Successful completion of all courses
- Promotion and retention rates
- Completion of specific academic programs (honors, career-readiness indicators credentials/certification)
- WIDA for ELs
- AIMS web
- STAR Reading and STAR Math

Achievement-related data measures those areas shown to be correlated to academic success. Data includes:

- In-school and out-of-school suspension and expulsion rates
- Alcohol, tobacco, and other drug violations
- Attendance rates, including tardies to school/class, check-outs, and truancy
- Parent or guardian involvement
- Extracurricular participation rate
- Defiance or disobedient
- Any other Code of Student Conduct Violation

Standards- and competency-related data measures student mastery of the competencies delineated in the comprehensive counseling and guidance program. Data includes:

- Percentage of students having a four-year plan on file
- Percentage of students scoring proficient on the ACCESS for ELLs
- Percentage of students benchmarking on the ACAP Alternate and ACAP Summative
- Percentage of students benchmarking on ACT WorkKeys and ACT
- Percentage of students earning a College and Career Ready Indicator

- Percentage of students participating in job shadowing
- Percentage of students setting and attaining academic goals
- Percentage of students applying conflict resolution skills

Data Over Time

The Guidance Counselors will assess the current school counseling and guidance program and report how well the program is meeting the academic, career, and personal/social needs of students. School counselors should determine student needs that are unique to their school and community.

Monitoring Program Progress

Program Evaluations

Evaluation of the comprehensive counseling and guidance program is a vital element in determining the effectiveness of the school program. An evaluation of the counseling and guidance program using process data, perception data, and results data measures the degree to which students have acquired the skills and knowledge defined by the competencies and the Minimum Requirements for School Counseling and Guidance Programs in Alabama. Each curriculum plan utilized in the Bullock County Schools Guidance and Counseling Program includes the above-mentioned components.

Process Data (What did the counselor do and for whom?)

Process data includes an evaluation of the number of students served, how many groups and classroom visits were conducted, what activities were completed, etc.

Perception Data (What do students think they know, believe, or can demonstrate?)

Perception data is collected through the pre/post assessments, tests, or skill demonstration opportunities (role plays, evaluation/feedback forms).

Results Data (What was changed or learned as a result of the activity?)

Results data is derived from the observed impact on the students' ability to utilize their knowledge, attitudes, and skills to affect behavior change.

Student Results Evaluations

Results evaluations are used to show change in student behavior and student learning. The results evaluations and reports can be used to ensure the program is carried out as planned; to ensure that every student is served; to ensure that developmentally appropriate materials are used; to analyze the program's effectiveness; to improve the program; etc.

Program Audits

The Bullock County School Counselors are expected to periodically (at least annually) audit their counseling and guidance program. The primary purpose for the audit is to guide future actions within the program and to improve future results for students.

BULLOCK COUNTY SCHOOLS

Counselor/Principal Management Agreement

School Year	School	Date	
Counselor			
STUDENT ACCESS—	-Students will access the	school counselor by:	
☐ Grade Level	$_{\square}$ No Caseload	☐ Other	
□ Alpha Listing	(See Any Co	ounselor)	
□ Domain	\Box By Referral		
program:%%%%%	delivering guidance curric with individual student pl with responsive services with system support other		semig
□ Once a week		☐ Every two weeks	
□ Once a mon	th	_ Other	
	BLE TO FACULTY/ST —child abuse, ADD, etc.	AFF —Examples: department liaison, top	ical
	BLE TO STUDENTS/Passes, parent information in	ARENTS—Examples: counseling departments, etc.	ment

pr	ofessional development activities (che	-The school counselor will participate in the following ck all that apply):
	☐ District counselor meetings	\Box Classes and/or workshops
☐ Yearly state conference		□ Other
	☐ Yearly national conference	
	ROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION neck all that apply and specify frequent	N—The school counselor will meet with the following cy):
	With the administration	Frequency:
	With advisory committee	Frequency:
	With the faculty/staff	Frequency:
	With the counseling department	Frequency:
☐ With subject area departments		Frequency:
	Other	Frequency:
_	CHOOL IMPROVEMENT/CLOCK	
	GOAL DESCRIPTION	
1	Goal Description	NG-THE-GAP GOALS Implementation Plan
1 2		
1		
1 2 3	Goal Description JDGET, MATERIALS, AND SUPPI	
1 2 3	Goal Description JDGET, MATERIALS, AND SUPPI	Implementation Plan LIES—For the current school year, the counselor has a

ways identified: The school counselor will be assisted by the following people in the ways identified:				
The registrar will				
The student aide will				
Others will				
	Counselor's Signature and Date			
	Principal's Signature and Date			

AT-RISK CHECKLIST Responsible Person/At-Risk Determinants Teacher Counselor Teacher Administrator Office Failed a course Needs to Retained in one More than three Teacher/Counselor during the demonstrate unexcused or more classes More than five 1st, 2nd, or 3rd **College and** absences (indicate days in ISS Career number) Nine weeks Readiness **Student's Name**

Bullock County Schools Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Plan