



Dr. Mayer's Memo

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School Counselors--More

FEEL FREE TO PASS THIS MEMO TO ANOTHER IN ITS ENTIRETY. LET'S REACH PARENTS!

New Reader?

Send me an email to get on the list. There is no charge for this resource.

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www.DrJohnMayer.com

Please visit my web site for more information and back copies of Mayer's Memo:

In my career-long quest to reach more people with help on teens and children. I have started a new exciting learning tool:

www.TroubledTeens-TheFix.com

An interactive parent/teacher learning community. Check it out as I build it.

HELP RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
WITH THE SUCCESS OF MY 1ST WEBINAR DOING A FREE WEBINAR ON: 04-11-2013

PARENTING TEENS:
PUT DOWN THE BOXING GLOVES AND ENJOY YOUR TEEN!

My last issue on school counselors was well received and I had more to add so here goes.

Counselors are trained professionals.

Treat the counselors as the professionals they are! Long gone are the days, which were my early days of consulting to schools, when the counselors were populated by sports coaches who wanted time to go over game tapes, retired teachers, teachers who couldn't control a classroom, etc. Today's counselors are specifically trained for the role and add to the school.

Use counselors-Built in resources.

Tap into the counselors' resources! It amazes me how much school time and resources are wasted on outside resources coming into schools when there is a department of professionals who know your students better, the environment of the school better and tapping into them is great support for their integration into the school. Look to them 1st for such needs. Maybe the outside resource should just be used to guide/structure/give direction to their professional knowledge.

Develop outside resources-as resources

Speaking of using outside resources, encourage your counselors to develop a list of resources including therapeutic resources, counselors, therapists, and experts in various areas. But a word of caution here for the counselors, building such a list of resources shouldn't be done casually. Too often I have seen such referral lists compiled based on such parameters as: convenience/location/gender/language/cost/marketing. Now all those parameters can go into a resource list, BUT I would add: proven competence/ accessibility & accountability to the school/ commitment/rapport (Including social skills!)/professionalism/experience/training/education/specialty/parent & student feedback/RESULTS.

Don't Handicap the counselors.

I pointed out in the last issue how embarrassing the environment of some counseling offices are~run down~no privacy~no soundproofing~paint chipping~smells~ but, there are other ways we handicap the counselors. Faculty uninformed of how to use the services~Lack of integration with the discipline office~Restricting student access to counselors~and so on. Think how you may be blocking these pros from their work.

Counselors Make Your Case.

Counselors: scrape and claw to get in front of the faculty to educate them on what you can and can't do FOR THEM. Try sending out periodic emails to the faculty on your services~how about including case examples (anonymous) and also resources for the classroom??