Wisconsin Conservatory of Lifelong Learning (WCLL) is the first year-round school in Milwaukee to serve students in grades K4 – 12. Our Student Support Personnel Team (SSPT) plays a vital role in encouraging our students’ academic success and fostering a safe and nurturing school climate. Their impact is reflected in the spirit of collaboration, advocacy, leadership and accountability as evidenced by the resources we provide for all our students.

Our unique, holistic and lifelong approach to learning enables students to understand the connections between knowledge, communication, technology and the world of work. Driven by the National and State Standards in school counseling, our SSPT team consistently provides exceptional programming and individualized attention to ensure we are meeting the needs of every student. We hold ourselves accountable to the performance standards of the National Model for School Counseling, and are proud of the professionalism and dedication of our program and support personnel.

Principal’s Statement

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Student Support Personnel Team (SSPT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position/Experience</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Credentials</th>
<th>Professional Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Sallie A. Brown</td>
<td>MS in Ed Psych, EED, State of Wisconsin Master Administrator’s License</td>
<td>Member of NASSP, NABSE, ASC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Roseann Lococo</td>
<td>MS in Educational Psychology</td>
<td>Member of AWSA, ASCD, NASSP, NAESP, ASC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Janice Odom</td>
<td>MS in Ed Leadership; MS in Curriculum &amp; Instruction</td>
<td>Member of AWSA, NASSP, NAESP, ASC, AKA, ASC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counselor</td>
<td>Aimee Harris</td>
<td>MS in Educational Psychology (K-12), LPC</td>
<td>Member of WSCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counselor Interns In Training</td>
<td>Meagan Basilius, Sarah Learst, Margaret Rhody, Ola Bamgbose</td>
<td>MS in School Counseling (K-12) – In progress</td>
<td>Members of WSCA and ASCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Psychologist</td>
<td>Marie Baumeister</td>
<td>MsEd, Plus</td>
<td>Member of WSPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>Kristin Annen, Patricia Ortiz</td>
<td>MSW, MSW</td>
<td>Member of WSSWA, SSWAA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker Intern In Training</td>
<td>Amanda Matuszak</td>
<td>MSW in School Social Work In progress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer Worker</td>
<td>Vivian Taylor</td>
<td>BS in Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>AmeriCorps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech Pathologist</td>
<td>Shelly Amini</td>
<td>MS in Speech Pathology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Support</td>
<td>Heidi Lawhorn</td>
<td>Community Liaison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Support</td>
<td>Emma Rios</td>
<td>Community Liaison</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Technician</td>
<td>Georgia Wise</td>
<td>MS in Admin. Higher Ed.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
School Climate and Safety

Each member of the support team identifies school climate as a top priority in order to ensure student safety. In response to data from the school climate survey and a school-wide needs assessment, the SSPT began implementing these interventions to directly impact school climate and safety.

Increased efforts to encourage a positive school climate include the following programs:

- **Restorative Justice Circles**: promoting peace through understanding and empathy
- **Mix-It Up Day**: encouraging students to use social initiation skills across social groups
- **Bullying curriculum**: fostering a peaceful and respectful school through awareness training
- **Teens Who Care**: middle school service learning group promoting civic-mindedness
- **Forgiveness curriculum**: a school-wide effort encouraging respect and compassion

Student Results

**CAREER**

Intending for students to develop career awareness (C:A1), acquire career information (C:B1), identify career goals (C:B2), and acquire knowledge to achieve career goals (C:C1), the school counselor collaborated with the 9th and 11th grade English teachers to introduce WISCAREERS. Students created online profiles, completed skills and interest inventories and explored possible career pathways. Inventories will be reviewed with students and parents during junior planning meetings in spring of 2010.

**PERSONAL/SOCIAL**

Responding to a need identified by teachers in a school-wide survey, the school counselor implemented a developmental guidance curriculum based around goal setting (PS:A1.3) and hope theory. Students in the fourth grade received classroom instruction that taught decision-making and problem-solving models (PS:B1.1), and identified alternative ways of achieving goals (PS:B1.10).

**ACADEMIC**

Reading Level Outcomes Using Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)

Focusing efforts on the Response to Intervention (RTI) model, parents and community volunteers were trained to deliver early-reading interventions to K5-third grade students. In one third grade classroom, 75% of students maintained or increased their reading levels between January and May of 2009. Achieving school success (A:A2) and improving learning (A:B1) are vital to a student’s improved academic self-concept (A:A1). WCLL’s collaboration with volunteers made a real difference in this classroom.

Increased Reading Level
Maintained Reading Level
Decreased Reading Level

Using a 1-6 Likert scale, students answered:

- **Q1**: I can set goals to accomplish what I want
- **Q2**: When I have a problem, I can come up with lots of ways to solve it
- **Q3**: When faced with a problem, I can talk myself through it
**Measurements**

The Student Support Personnel Team at WCLL is committed to serving the needs of all students through data-driven interventions. By continuously evaluating students with the following measurements, the SSPT is able to respond to students’ needs and design a curriculum reflective of the demands of the school.

**Academic**
- Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT): results identify the need for academic support
- American College Testing (ACT): taken by juniors at no cost, determines college readiness
- Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination (WKCE): assesses proficiency levels and progress

**Career**
- Career Pathways - 11th grade Post-Secondary Course: measures post-secondary readiness through coursework
- WISCAREERS: identifies career and post-secondary options through skills inventories and interest profiles
- Junior Planning meetings: identifies students’ strengths and helps to determine post-secondary plans

**Personal/Social**
- School Climate Survey: surveys students and staff on perceptions of school climate and safety
- Needs Assessment: identifies individual, group and classroom guidance intervention needs through school-wide survey of teachers
- Pre and Post Tests: evaluates all classroom guidance and small group interventions for effectiveness
- School Engagement Survey: measures the correlation between service learning projects and gains in academic achievement

**Major Achievements**

School-wide efforts and the involvement of each SSPT member have contributed to many school achievements. Some of these achievements include:

- Awarded grant to send four high school students to Philadelphia to attend the 6th Annual Urban Service Learning Conference
- Successfully brought in 20 Milwaukee-area employers for the second annual career fair
- Implemented an internationally recognized Forgiveness Education curriculum to encourage respect and tolerance in grades 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7
- Developed and implemented a Title I parent education mini-series to encourage involvement
- Over 30 different colleges and universities sent acceptance letters to WCLL’s 61 graduating seniors in 2008-2009
- Counseling Department received SPARC-W Program of Promise Award in 2008 and SPARC-W Pioneer Award in 2007
- Introducing “Careers-on-Wheels” - a collaboration between Milwaukee’s public service sector and SSPT to encourage younger students to think about potential career opportunities
- SSPT curriculum greatly increased percentage of freshman and juniors using WISCAREERS for academic/career planning

**Community Partnerships/Resources**

A survey of the previous school year shows that 55.8% of high school students are aware that businesses and community organizations provide support to the school (up from 46.9% in 2008). The SSPT collaborates with a significant number of community partners, encouraging successful intervention and prevention throughout the school.

**Academic Domain**
- YMCA: One-on-One Host mentor program
- UW-Milwaukee: Saturday Academy, Talent Search pre-college program, ACT prep courses
- Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) program

**Career Domain**
- Department of Public Instruction: Youth Options Program
- Wisconsin Foundation for Independent Colleges: College Readiness 21
- UW System: Stepping Stones program

**Personal/Social Domain**
- InHealth Wisconsin: Teen Depression Training
- Pathfinders Youth and Family Services: Counseling services, Sexual Abuse Violence Prevention Curriculum
- Plan A: Abstinence program
- District Attorney’s Office: Restorative Justice Training
- United States AmeriCorps: Vista volunteer for service learning projects
- Parents Plus: Encouraging involvement
**Volunteer Involvement**

At WCLL, community service is an important aspect of students’ academic, career and personal/social development. Students at WCLL are encouraged to participate in community service projects throughout their school career. The SSPT encourages community members to volunteer at WCLL. Prospective volunteers may contact Aimee Harris at (414) 304-6827 or by e-mail at harrisac@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

**Sam’s Hope Literacy Project** – WCLL high school students set up and distributed books for the citywide reading project for grades K-3.

**Recycling Project** – WCLL 5th grade students partnered with local police and fire departments on a recycling service learning project. Students learned what can be reduced, reused and/or recycled.

**Environmental Project** – Middle school students volunteered at Rocky Mountain National Park working side-by-side with park rangers in an experiential and environmental clean-up program.

**Career Day** – The SSPT brought in local business owners to talk to WCLL students about their careers and the steps they took to get to their current positions.

**In Her Shoes** – WCLL high school students walked in a charity fundraiser in support of domestic violence / sexual assault prevention.

**Beach Sweep Cleanup** – 5th and 6th grade students spent several Saturday mornings cleaning McKinley Beach and learning about the laws, policies and best practices for eliminating pollution.

**Milwaukee Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital** – WCLL 3rd graders wrote letters of appreciation to local United States Veterans in 2009.

**Our Lady Queen of Peace** – WCLL high school students volunteered with this nearby parish to serve “Breakfast with Santa” and “Breakfast with the Bunny” to at-risk youth and underserved Milwaukee families.

**Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)** – Parents and community volunteers were trained to deliver early reading interventions to K5-third grade students.

**Milwaukee Police Department** – Local police volunteered time to speak to WCLL’s 6th grade classes about the “Choices and Consequences” of alcohol abuse, drug use and gang involvement.

**Focus for Improvement**

Last year, WCLL identified and met three goals:

1. To increase the number of juniors completing college entrance exams and prep courses. **All juniors took the ACT in 08-09.**
2. To increase peer-to-peer problem solving skills through the expansion of the school’s Restorative Justice Program. **Trained 17 students in September 2009 to facilitate Restorative Justice circles.**
3. To increase collaboration among teachers and student support staff to promote school safety and a positive school environment. **Collected results of a school-wide teachers’ survey to determine interventions based on teachers’ needs. Increased communication with teachers on curriculum and program development.**

The SSPT is committed to the continuous improvement of WCLL as evidenced by strong data results.

The SSPT has the following goals for the 2009-2010 academic year.

1. To increase attendance rates from 90% to 93% through targeted interventions. This goal aligns with the goals of WCLL’s School Improvement Plan
2. To increase family involvement by offering four Title I parent education workshops in 2009-2010, in addition to parent conferences and junior planning meetings.
3. To align with MPS district goals by decreasing the number of suspensions due to disruptions in the learning environment from 45% to 40% through continued expansion of the Restorative Justice Program and Forgiveness Curriculum.

**Keeping You Informed**

WCLL’s SSPT encourages open lines of communication with families and community members. Parents participate in students’ educational planning through parent/teacher conferences each semester, junior planning meetings with parents and students, Collaborative Support Team meetings and Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings. Anyone needing translation may be referred to Central Services at (414) 475-8393. All district publications are available in Hmong, Spanish and English. Parents receive additional updates about students in the following ways:

- WCLL’s newly redesigned website, which features individual classroom web pages and newsletters
- Parent Bulletin Boards
- Messages to parents about school events and activities via ParentLink
- Phone calls, quarterly report cards and alert letters sent home to parents with academic progress
- The school’s newsletter, QuickNotes, which is sent out bi-weekly

WCLL’s 2009 SPARC will be distributed to the district office, school board, faculty and partnering community agencies via e-mail. It will be distributed to parents through the school’s newsletter and posted on WCLL’s website.

Please contact WCLL if you have any questions. [www.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/wcll](http://www.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/wcll) (414) 304-6800