

**2013-2014**  
**Board of Education Report**

If this school year had a theme, it would be "Transitions." The Camden School District Guidance Department had two counselors move to different buildings and three new counselors contracted for other buildings. A new Director of Guidance was hired as well. This was the first time in a long time that the guidance staff has had a transition of this magnitude. There may have been a few bumps in the road, but we survived, and our students/parents may not have caught the blimps or blunders, as we saw them.

The school year began after a successful summer of collaboration. The district guidance staff determined what power standards are important at each grade level. Our directive for this year was to clarify the lessons plans for those power standards. The staff has been successful in this venture. Our guidance staff is to be commended for their diligence in collaboration in order to compile the necessary documentation for the lessons plans. There were new lessons created in a few buildings because of our transitional year.

**New Activities for 2013-2014:**

- **High School** – The Career and Schedule Planning Guide is now on posted online
- **Horizons** – Increased the number of students taking the ACT and increased local scholarship applicants
- **Lake Career and Technical Center** – Hosted FAFSA Frenzy and offered 5<sup>th</sup> grade tour of the LCTC
- **Middle School** – Created several new clubs and re-established the National Junior Honor Society
- **Oak Ridge** – "The Lighthouse" Clothes Closet, targeted intervention groups, and regular newsletters
- **Hawthorn** – PBS Tier II Team and targeted Intervention groups
- **Dogwood** – Daily intervention groups and Peer Mentors (Middle School students with Dogwood students)

After completing the annual **Internal Improvement Review (IIR)**, which evaluates the content, structure, and implementation level of our current guidance program, the district guidance staff has concluded that the following items need to be the focus of our collaboration for the 2014-2015 school year:

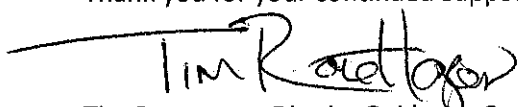
- Continue developing the District Guidance Manual and procedures to support Board policies;
- Formalize a District Guidance Advisory Council to assist in evaluating, revising, and improving the guidance program;
- Develop an updated District Resource Guide for both staff and students;
- Create Follow-up Procedures for students who are referred for outside services once they return to school the classroom.

**Future Resources:**

- Full-time counselors at both Hurricane Deck and Osage Beach Elementary schools – especially when district boundaries are adjusted once the buildings are completed.
- Combined Social Worker and Psychometric Examiner to assist with a variety of issues throughout the district.

Becki Long-Ruggles will be retiring from Camden Middle School after four years of service in the district.

Thank you for your continued support of the District Guidance Counselors!



Tim Roettgen – District Guidance Coordinator