

GREAT FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOL  
K-12 COUNSELING CURRICULUM

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

**Big Idea: As a lifelong process, learning requires skills, knowledge and an assumption that learning is inherent in life.**

**ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

A. Students will acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and interpersonal skills that contribute to effective learning.	B. Students will complete school with the academic rigor and preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial post-secondary options, including college.	C. Students will understand the relationship of academics to the world of work, to life at home, and to life in the community.
Enduring Understanding: <i>A positive attitude, solid knowledge base, and good interpersonal skills will help me all my life.</i>	Enduring Understanding: <i>Education will increase my choices in life.</i>	Enduring Understanding: <i>My education is important to my future.</i>

CAREER DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

**Big Idea: Our contribution to the world is dependent upon the connections we make among our personal attributes, our education, our skills, and our experiences.**

**CAREER STANDARDS**

A. Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work and to make informed career decisions.	B. Students will employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction.	C. Students will understand the relationship among personal qualities, education, training, and the world of work.
Enduring Understanding: <i>If I know how to find out about careers, I will make better decisions for my future.</i>	Enduring Understanding: <i>I will make better decisions for my future if I research and explore options available to me.</i>	Enduring Understanding: <i>The qualities I develop in myself and the skills I learn will help me be more successful in my future work.</i>

PERSONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

**Big Idea: Individual maturation in a complex and diverse society demands skilled interactions, understanding of self, empathy for others, and continuous reflection.**

**PERSONAL/SOCIAL STANDARDS**

A. Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and interpersonal skills to help understand and respect self and others.	B. Students will make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals.	C. Students will understand safety and survival skills.
Enduring Understanding: <i>It is essential that I learn how to develop good relationships with others in my life and to know and understand myself.</i>	Enduring Understanding: <i>Planning increases the likelihood of success</i>	Enduring Understanding: <i>Developing skills and the internal strength to cope with and manage my life will help me with all that I do.</i>

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

**Big Idea: As a lifelong process, learning requires skills, knowledge and an assumption that learning is inherent in life.**

<b>Academic Standard A:</b> Students will acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and interpersonal skills that contribute to effective learning.
<b>Enduring Understanding:</b> <i>A positive attitude, solid knowledge base, and good interpersonal skills will help me all my life.</i>

**BENCHMARKS**

Grade 9-12	Essential Questions
<p>Aa1. I will improve academic self-concept by identify attitudes and behaviors that lead to successful learning by recognizing my strengths and weaknesses.</p> <p>Aa2. I will acquire skills that will improve learning by demonstrating time and task management skills and show how persistence and effort positively affect learning.</p> <p>Aa3. I will practice using communication skills to know when and how to ask for help when needed.</p> <p>Aa4. I will achieve school success by demonstrating responsibility, dependability, productivity, and initiative and will develop a broad range of interests and ability.</p>	<p><b><i>How does what you know about yourself and what you have already learned contribute to effective learning?</i></b></p>

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## ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

**Big Idea: As a lifelong process, learning requires skills, knowledge and an assumption that learning is inherent in life.**

**Academic Standard B:** Students will complete school with the academic rigor and preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial post-secondary options, including college.

**Enduring Understanding:** *Education is important to my future.*

## BENCHMARKS

Grade 9-12	<i>Essential Questions</i>
<p>Ab1. I will improve learning by organizing and applying information from a variety of sources to become a self directed and independent learner.</p> <p>Ab2. I will work toward achieving goals by using problem solving and decision making skills to assess progress towards educational goals and apply knowledge of aptitudes and interests to goals setting.</p> <p>Ab3. I will identify post secondary options consistent with interests, achievement, aptitude and abilities.</p> <p>Ab4. I will identify and problem solve when my performance in school is not successful.</p>	<p><i>In what ways does what you do during high school impact the rest of your life?</i></p>

## ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

**Big Idea: As a lifelong process, learning requires skills, knowledge and an assumption that learning is inherent in life.**

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

**Enduring Understanding:** *My education is important to my future.*

## BENCHMARKS

Grade 9-12	<i>Essential Questions</i>
<p>Ac1. I will relate school to life experiences by understanding how academic achievement and identifying aptitudes will enhance future career and vocational opportunities.</p> <p>Ac2. I will demonstrate the ability to balance school, homework, extracurricular activities, leisure time, and family life.</p>	<p><i>Justify why having a balance in your life is important.</i></p>

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**CAREER DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN**

**Big idea: Our contribution to the world is dependent upon the connections we make among our personal attributes, our education, our skills, and our experiences.**

<b>Academic Standard A:</b> Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work and to make informed career decisions.
<b>Enduring Understanding:</b> <i>If I know how to find out about careers, I will make better decisions for my future.</i>

**BENCHMARKS**

Grade 9-12	<i>Essential Questions</i>
<p>Ca1. I will develop career awareness by applying skills to locate, evaluate, and interpret career information and relate this to a variety of occupations.</p> <p>Ca2. I will develop employment readiness through exploring the importance of responsibility, dependability, punctuality, integrity, and effort.</p>	<p><b><i>How does the ability to acquire information about post-secondary options affect your future career choices?</i></b></p>

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN**

**Big idea: Our contribution to the world is dependent upon the connections we make among our personal attributes, our education, our skills, and our experiences.**

<b>Academic Standard B.</b> Students will employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction.
<b>Enduring Understanding:</b> <i>I will make better decisions for my future if I research and explore options available to me.</i>

**BENCHMARKS**

Grade 9-12	<i>Essential Questions</i>
<p>Cb1. I will acquire career information through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applying decision making skills to career planning, course selection, and career transition.</li> <li>• Identifying personal skills, interests and abilities and relating them to current career choices.</li> <li>• Learning to use the internet to access career planning information and post secondary training.</li> </ul>	<p><b><i>What tools/strategies have you used to help investigate career options?</i></b></p>

<p>Cb2. I will identify career goals through demonstrating awareness of the education and training needed to achieve career goals and selecting course work that is related to career interests.</p>	
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**CAREER DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN**

**Big idea: Our contribution to the world is dependent upon the connections we make among our personal attributes, our education, our skills, and our experiences.**

<p><b>Academic Standard C.</b> Understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training, and the world of work.</p>
<p><b>Enduring Understanding:</b> <i>The qualities I develop in myself and the skills I learn will help me be more successful in my future work.</i></p>

**BENCHMARKS**

<b>Grade 9-12</b>	<i>Essential Questions</i>
<p>Cc1. I will acquire knowledge to achieve career goals by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the relationship between educational achievement and career success;</li> <li>• Identifying personal preferences and interests influencing my career choice and success;</li> <li>• Understanding that the changing work place requires lifelong learning and acquisition of new skills.</li> </ul> <p>Cc2. I will apply skills to achieve career goals by applying academic and employment readiness skills in work based learning situations such as internships, job shadowing and/or mentoring experiences.</p>	<p><i>How does what you are good at and what you like to do influence career choices?</i></p> <p><i>What opportunities relating to career choices have you taken advantage of during high school?</i></p>

**PERSONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN**

**Big idea: Individual maturation in a complex and diverse society demands skilled interactions, understanding of self, empathy for others, and continuous reflection.**

<p><b>Academic Standard A.</b> Acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and interpersonal skills to help understand and respect self and others.</p>
<p><b>Enduring Understanding:</b> <i>It is essential that I learn how to develop good relationships with others in my life and to know and understand myself.</i></p>

**BENCHMARKS**

<b>Grade 9-12</b>	<i>Essential Questions</i>
<p>P/Sa1. I will acquire self knowledge to develop positive attitudes towards myself as a unique and worthy person and identify personal strengths and assets.</p>	

<p>P/Sa2. I will acquire interpersonal skills by recognizing, accepting, respecting, and appreciating individual differences and use effective communication skills to learn how to make and keep friends.</p> <p>P/Sa3. I will work towards developing an attitude of accepting and appreciating diversity in my world.</p>	<p><i>How will a positive self esteem affect your relationship with others?</i></p>
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PERSONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

**Big idea: Individual maturation in a complex and diverse society demands skilled interactions, understanding of self, empathy for others, and continuous reflection.**

<p><b>Academic Standard B.</b> Students will make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals.</p>
<p><b>Enduring Understanding:</b> <i>Planning increases the likelihood of success.</i></p>

BENCHMARKS

Grade 9-12	Essential Questions
<p>P/Sb1. I will apply self knowledge to develop effective coping skills for dealing with problems and knowing when, where and how to seek help with solving problems and making decisions.</p> <p>P/Sb2. I will identify long and short term goals and alternative ways of achieving them by exploring a variety of options.</p>	<p><i>List two short term and two long term goals you have set for yourself and a plan to achieve them.</i></p>

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**Big idea: Individual maturation in a complex and diverse society demands skilled interactions, understanding of self, empathy for others, and continuous reflection.**

<p><b>Academic Standard C.</b> Students will understand personal safety and survival skills.</p>
<p><b>Enduring Understanding:</b> <i>Developing skills and the internal strength to cope with and manage my life will help me with all that I do.</i></p>

## BENCHMARKS

<b>Grade 9-12</b>	<b><i>Essential Questions</i></b>
<p>P/Sc1. I will acquire skills that will allow effective problem solving and decision making skills to make safe and healthy choices, manage stress and conflict, and cope with peer pressure.</p>	<p><b><i>Describe a situation in which you have utilized a coping skill that works for you.</i></b></p>