

The Ninth Grade News



Freshwoman Fiesta, 2009

Mercy Counseling Department

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MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

Educating Women Who
Make a Difference

Welcome to Mercy High School!!!

As Mercy High School's Ninth Grade Counselor, I am ecstatic to welcome you and your daughters to what will be an unforgettable school year. Whether this is your first daughter to begin High School, or your fourth, every young woman experiences said education uniquely. It is my job at Mercy to ensure that each and every Freshwoman makes a smooth transition to our building logistically, academically, and socially. I am just thrilled to get to know Mercy High School's class of 2013!

During Cycle 2, I will be meeting with your daughters in their English classes to explain to them the ins and outs of the Counseling Office, my responsibilities as Ninth Grade Counselor, how and why they would seek out a Mercy Counselor. As I am sure your little darlings will be all-ears as I present this information to them, I feel it may be wise to also share with you, the parents and guardians.

HOW DO I ACCESS MY COUNSELOR?

We are available during school hours by appointment. Students will also be seen as they drop-in upon availability. Students are to seek their Counselor during off-time, unless it is an emergency. Appointments can be made directly with the Counselor via email or in person, or with Counseling Secretary, Jennifer Burek.

WHY SEE A COUNSELOR?

Mercy Counselors are available for both academic and personal issues. In the academic realm, we are most often sought out for guidance and selection of classes, discussions about progress and grades, college selection

and the application process. Our other major role is supporting our students with any personal issue that may arise. Whether your daughter is having friendship conflicts, struggling with stress management, dealing with family problems, or is simply having a bad day, the Counseling Department is here for them. Although I am assigned the entire Freshwoman class, if I am unavailable when your daughter needs to be seen, she may see one of the three other Counselors.

Distinct to my position, serving only ninth graders are the duties of helping your girls acclimate to our building, climate, and traditions. I offer myself to these girls as a one-stop-shop, where no question is silly question. I have helped girls out with varying situations from needing a pencil, to requesting that the backside of her torn dress be sewn. I aim to be one person in this building that our ninth graders can turn to, no matter what. My job truly is a special one as I work with our youngest students throughout their first year, watching them grow and find themselves at Mercy.

During Cycles 3 and 4, I will be meeting with each and every Freshwoman individually for 15 minutes each. This time will be used to get to know each ninth grader a little better and to take an early look at her academic progress and speak to any scholastic concerns she may have thus far. Although this is quite a busy period for me, I so look forward to meeting all 193 of Mercy's Freshwomen. I also look forward to meeting many of you. Here's to the start of four very important years!!!

Mrs. Trish Marie Brown