

Support Personnel Accountability Report Card (SPARC) 2005-2006

South Kingstown High School
215 Columbia Street
Wakefield, RI 02879
Fax: 401.789.2160
Phone: 401.792.9611 x 1004



Principal: Mr. Robert McCarthy
Grade Levels: 9-12
Enrollment: 1267
School Year: Traditional
Website: www.skschools.net

Student Support Team (SST):

Principal	Assistant Principals (3)
Director of Guidance	School Counselors (5)
School Psychologist (1.2)	School Social Worker
School-Based Coordinator	School Nurse Teacher
Truancy Officer	Office Clerks (2)
Student Assistance Counselor	Speech Therapist
Department Chairperson of Special Education	Occupational Therapist
	Physical Therapist

The school counselors collaborate daily with members of the Student Support Team to provide equitable education for all students and to assist each student in reaching his or her potential in the academic, career, and personal/social domains. School counselors ensure the coordination of team members to develop innovative plans, and provide all students with support and options in achieving educational and future goals. School counselors evaluate students' progress in achieving these goals and annually review the counseling program. The team collectively holds over 350 years of experience; 86% of the team has attained a Masters Degree and all members belong to professional organizations.

Community Partnerships/Resources: System support is necessary for all students to achieve in all domains. The following partnerships are maintained by the team to provide the best possible services to students and families, and assist in monitoring progress towards post-secondary goals.

<i>Academic</i>	<i>Career/Post-secondary</i>	<i>Personal/Social</i>
RI Department of Education, University of RI, RI College, Community College of RI, Virtual High School offered through Southern RI Collaborative	Armed Services, Chariho Voc-Tech, College Planning Center of RI, Job Corps, Office of Rehabilitative Services, Dept. of Labor & Training	South County Community Action, South Shore Mental Health, Rotary Club, CARES, Meadows Edge, URI Mentoring, South Kingstown Police Department

Keeping You Informed: Communication with families is crucial for student success. All of the following are offered in the primary language of the district:

Print

Quarterly guidance newsletter, Student Handbook, Program of Studies, report cards, progress reports, student planners, weekly Senior Bulletin, quarterly Junior Bulletin, hallway Bulletin Board, "Looking Ahead to Your Future" book for juniors

Personal Contact

Student/Parent meetings, presentations to all classes, evening programs (Ninth Grade Parents Night, Back-to-School Night, Financial Aid, Post-Secondary Planning, Financial Aid Assistance), college visits, evening hours for counselors

Electronic

Web site, list-serv (faculty and community members), automated phone messages, e-mail, SPARC on-line

SKHS SPARC is shared with all faculty members through district-wide e-mail. South Kingstown Town Council, School Committee and Administration receive a hard copy. Families and community members can view the SKHS SPARC at www.skschools.net under "High School" then "Guidance".

Principal's Comments:

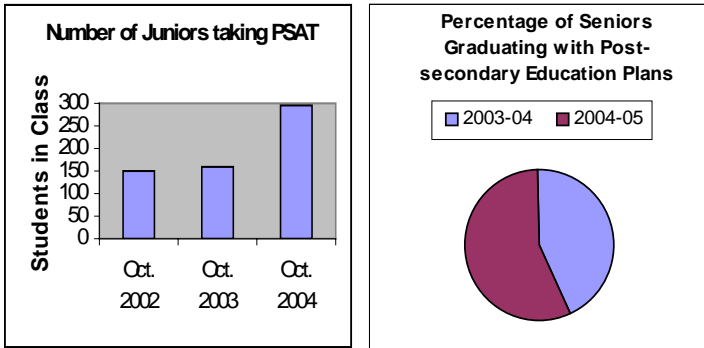
I am continually impressed with the South Kingstown High School counseling department's commitment to the implementation of *The National Standards for School Counseling Programs* and *The RI Framework for Comprehensive K-12 School Counseling Programs* into the fabric of South Kingstown High School. The school counseling department's pro-active, evidenced-based approach to counseling has led to improvements in a variety of areas central to all SKHS students, including attendance, career choices, and the increase of student support services.

One mechanism for these improvements has been the Student Support Team (SST), which has helped us examine and address issues from the perspective of individual students as well as on a programmatic level. I commend the SST and the school counseling department for their roles in making South Kingstown High School students feel supported and prepared to transition to future academic and professional careers.

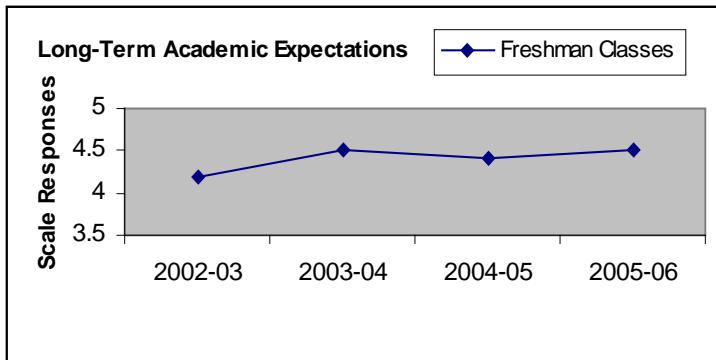
Parent Volunteer Involvement: Parent and community volunteers play a vital role at SKHS, and all members of the educational community are invited to join in the following efforts:

- *Guidance Advisory Council* meets quarterly with school counselors and reviews school counseling program; contact Angela Sharkey at 401.360.1001; angela.sharkey@att.net
- *CARES, Connecting All Resources for Educational Support:* Volunteers organize scholarships, meet with college representatives and assist with weekly Senior Bulletin; contact Midge Kahn at 401.792.9673
- *Principal's Guidance Council* meets monthly with the principal; contact June McDermott at 401.360.1003; rid02541@ride.ri.net
- *Career Exploration Day* in October needs volunteers to share employment experiences; contact John Harvey 401.360.1041; jharvey836@cox.net

Student Results: The following data outlines the SST's efforts to assist students in the three domains and reach the standards in the *National Standards for School Counseling* and *The RI Framework for School Counseling*. The RI Dept. of Education collaborated with SKHS in offering PSAT testing to all juniors for the first time in 2004. Counselors, administrators and other members of SST have encouraged all students to be present and sit for this important test; follow up workshops on PSAT results are presented in December.

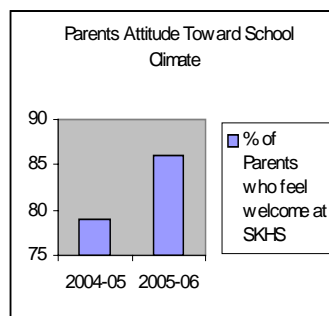


Due to collaborations with teachers, URI mentors, counselors (introducing CHOICES to 9th graders through Advisory) and post-secondary planning workshops for juniors, the number of students attending post-secondary schools has increased. Members of the 9th grade class have been consistent in having long-term academic expectations as supported by SALT data. Counselors, in collaboration with the SST, have been committed to providing workshops and counseling individual students to provide all freshmen a high comfort level in their in their learning environment, as well as goal-setting skills.



School Climate and Safety:

Parents are encouraged to attend nightly workshops on portfolio/graduation by proficiency, post-secondary planning, or to make an appointment to complete the financial aid form. All members of the SST promote outreach from the school via phone, electronic list-serv, the school website, and quarterly newsletters, and encourage parents to contact the school either through phone or e-mail. SALT data reveals more parents feel welcome at the school.



Focus for Improvement:

- Continue to gather data regarding student attendance, tardiness, discipline referrals, and suspensions; academic interventions provided by members of the SST will be implemented to improve student achievement and performance.
- Counselors will provide small group counseling for academically at risk students.
- Collaborate with teachers through Advisories to insure SKHS School Counseling Program is delivered to all students.

Measurements: The SKHS SST utilizes a variety of assessment tools in the three domains. These are used to respond to the needs of students and families:

Academic: Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) offered to all sophomore and junior students (with improved scores demonstrated by this year's juniors); Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) if offered and students are encouraged to take the American College Test (ACT), as well as Advanced Placement (AP) exams. Special education assessments are used by the team to determine the educational needs of students. Report cards and progress reports are issued quarterly.

Career: All 9th graders are introduced to web-based CHOICES program; 10th and 11th grade students are encouraged to use DoWhatYouAre.com; the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is offered annually; Harrington-O'Shea Career Decision-Making System and Kuder Occupational Interest Survey are also available for use during individual counseling sessions.

Personal/Social: Students, families and staff are encouraged to complete a SALT (School Accountability for Learning and Teaching) survey annually. The school psychologist employs rating scales to assess students; the school nurse conducts annual health screenings and the student assistance counselor supports students with addictions.

Major Achievements:

- School counselors, grades 6-12, have collaborated and developed a SK District Comprehensive School Counseling Program, based on *National Standards* and *The RI Framework*.
- Web-based CHOICES has been introduced to each 9th grader student through Advisory.
- Every Senior Advisory received Financial Aid and Scholarship information.
- Guidance Advisory Council is in its 4th year.
- College Planning Center has continued for the third consecutive year to use SKHS as a satellite office for nightly meetings to assist families in completing financial aid forms; school counselors are allowed flex time to be available to families during College Planning Center visits.

SST members meet with freshmen in Study Halls to discuss academic and personal/social responsibilities and school safety, and to encourage students to join extracurricular activities. SALT survey responses from freshmen indicate the number of negative peer interactions have decreased.

