

Educational Resources

Services Provided at St. Michael Catholic School:

School Counseling Services Provided by Phoenix School Counseling, LLC:

Dr. Steve Kahn, Ph.D

2697 East County Road E

White Bear Lake, MN 55110

651-426-4297

stevekahn@comcast.net

Utilization of Services

1. Our group, Phoenix School Counseling, has been providing counseling services to private schools since 1981. Please know that we welcome your calls whatever the reason. Some problems should not be left for the next visit, so please don't wait until you see us.
2. The routine visits by your school's counselor are only part of the services our group provides your school. It might be that your situation will lead to Dr. Kahn visiting school, meeting with students or parents, providing an assessment or a teacher in-service. Please do not hesitate to call or email us and we will get back to you right away.

Testing

1. A broad range of testing services is available. Please contact us with any concern you are having about any of your students. We will usually provide the testing service directly and if there is a need for something outside our areas of expertise, we will help the family find exactly what they need.

Counseling

1. We are able to meet with any student for any reason with parent permission.
2. You may choose to talk to us first and ask us to contact the parent to introduce ourselves or you may talk to the parent first and have them call us.
3. Please assure them that we are on staff and that there is never any cost for any of our services to any family at any time.

Classroom Presentations and Groups

1. We provide classroom presentations on just about any topic for any grade.
2. We are most frequently asked to talk to the youngest students about feelings and sharing, third through fifth graders about friendship and teasing issues, and sixth through eighth graders about leadership, conflict resolution and peer mediation.

3. Groups include grief issues, family change, social skills for peer difficulties, and academic skills groups for underachievement.

Additional Resources

1. Please check out our website (www.drstevekahn.com). There are articles about children, learning, behavior and parenting. They are free and are available for downloading and sharing with other teachers and parents.

Licensed School Counselor:

As School Counselor, I would like to highlight the types of support services I offer students and families at St. Mike's. The elementary and middle school years are a time when students begin and continue to develop their academic self-concept and their feelings of competence and confidence as learners. They are also learning, on a daily basis, to develop healthy decision-making, communication and life skills, as well as character values. In the spirit of fostering healthy development, I am available to meet with students individually, with parent consent, regarding a host of topics including: Grief issues, friendship and social skills for peer difficulties, family change, conflict resolution and academic concerns. Through classroom presentations I am able to provide prevention and intervention services for students' academic and personal/social needs as identified by the classroom teacher. I also offer students the opportunity to participate in small group sessions for many of the topics mentioned above. And, as always, I am available to collaborate with teachers and parents to assist in assessing individual needs and to determine the appropriate support options when necessary. It is my pleasure to work with your children in such a supportive and faith-filled school community. I am on campus Tuesdays and Thursdays each week and welcome your concerns or feedback at any time.

Molly K. Fischer, M.S.E.

Licensed School Counselor

Our Lady of Peace School 612.823.8253

St. Michael Catholic School 952.447.2124

Resource books are available from the Licensed School Counselor upon request on the following topics:

- Divorce/Family Change
- Stress/Anxiety
- ADHD
- Grief & Loss
- Depression/Aspergers/OCD
- Friendship/Social Skills
- Bullying/Teasing
- Self Esteem
- Special Needs
- Anger Management
- Organization/Study Skills/Test Anxiety

Some specific parent resources:

[School Success for Kids with Asperger's Syndrome](#), by Stephen Silverman & Rich Weinfeld

[The Asperger's Answer Book](#), by Susan Ashley

[The Bully, The Bullied, and the Bystander](#), by Barbara Coloroso

[Insightful Parenting: Making Moments Count](#), by Dr. Steve Kahn

[Nobody Likes Me, Everybody Hates Me: The Top 25 Friendship Problems & How To Solve Them](#), by Michele Borba, Ed.D.

[Protecting The Gift: Keeping Children & Teenagers Safe](#), by Gavin De Becker
[Kids, Parents, & Power Struggles](#), by Mary Sheedy Kurcinka

Student Assistance Team:

The purpose of the student assistance team is to identify those students who may benefit from accommodations and/or interventions. A team approach is used when implementing a Student Assistance Plan. The team consists of the homeroom teacher/advisor, parents and the principal or the assistant principal.

Services Provided by Prior Lake – Savage School District:

Title One Services: A reading assistance program for qualifying students in grades 1-3. The student must live within the boundaries of an Elementary School that receives Title One services in order to be tested. If the student qualifies, Title One services take place at St. Michael Catholic School during regular school hours.

Special Education:

Special Education services are offered to qualifying students through ISD #719. Please consult with your child's teacher and/or administration at St. Michael Catholic School regarding questions about the referral process and eligibility.

For additional information regarding Special Education visit the Prior Lake Public School website:

<http://www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/168410528115922487/site/default.asp>

SEAC:

WHAT IS SEAC?

SEAC (pronounced "seek") is an acronym for Special Education Advisory Council, which is a parent group that provides input on special education issues to its local school district. Its purpose is to advise and advocate, not to decide policy. Minnesota law requires each school district in the state to have a special education advisory council (SEAC). Here is what the statute says:

125A.24 Parent Advisory Councils.

In order to increase the involvement of parents of children with disabilities in district policy making and decision making, school districts must have a special

education advisory council that is incorporated into the district's special education system plan.

(1) This advisory council may be established either for individual districts or in cooperation with other districts who are members of the same special education cooperative.

(2) A district may set up this council as a subgroup of an existing board, council, or committee.

(3) At least half of the designated council members must be parents of students with a disability. When a nonpublic school is located in the district, the council must include at least one member who is a parent of a nonpublic school student with a disability, or an employee of a nonpublic school if no parent of a nonpublic school student with a disability is available to serve. Each local council must meet no less than once each year. The number of members, frequency of meetings, and operational procedures are to be locally determined.

IS THERE A LOCAL SEAC?

The Prior Lake-Savage Area School District has its own local SEAC group comprised of parents, school staff members, and special education administrators. A school board member is also assigned as a liaison to this group. This group meets on a monthly basis to promote and support a network for parents/guardians of children with disabilities, to encourage understanding and inclusion of children with disabilities within the community, and to discuss matters of common interest and concern. By sharing their unique perspective of what it is like to use these services, parents can help the district learn about the challenges facing children with special needs and develop effective special education programming.

HOW DO I FIND OUT ABOUT THE LOCAL SEAC GROUP?

To find out more about the local SEAC parent group, contact the district's Special Education Director, Doug Kern, at the District Services Center. The SEAC group also maintains a webpage on the school district's website under SERVICES: Special Education and sends out a newsletter to the district's parents of children with special needs. The parent chairperson for the current school year is Becca Leach. At St. Michael's School, parents or staff may contact Kelly Rohlfesen for more information about the local SEAC group. rohlfesen@saintmpl.org

CAN I JOIN THE SEAC GROUP?

Each school district determines SEAC membership differently. Some SEACs ask for applicants and appoint members while others use volunteer members. The Prior Lake-Savage School SEAC asks for applicants and appoints members to try to balance parent representation within the group. However, parents of children with special needs within the district are encouraged to visit a SEAC meeting and can volunteer to help with SEAC sponsored events.