

Robyn B. Tracey

My first year as School Counselor at The Haworth Public School has been wonderful! Having the opportunity to work with such a competent and professional faculty and staff has been a privilege. I enjoy guiding students with the daily goal of making a positive impact on their lives both in and out of the school environment. I find it helpful to be proactive with parents by keeping them informed on a regular basis. This approach has proved to be successful based on feedback.

Helping students achieve academic success along with feeling good about themselves is the core of my responsibility. This includes working with 8th grade students and their parents in preparation for the transition from middle school to high school. I implement K – 5 classroom lessons on topics relating to friendships, good listening skills, bullying, organization, problem solving skills, forgiveness, demonstrating proper manners and cultural differences. I conduct individual and group counseling sessions with students throughout the elementary and middle school levels as well as work with teachers to address academic and behavioral concerns.

I am fortunate to be involved in a program new to Haworth called Peer Mediation. I am grateful to the teachers and peer mediators that are working with me on this program to carry it out successfully. I also serve as the testing coordinator for the New Jersey standardized tests where my focus is to organize the tests and assign testing responsibilities.

Two ongoing programs that I am involved with are called Character Education and Positive Points. I also encouraged positive interaction by creating a bulletin board entitled, "Random Acts of Kindness." This motivates students to write the act of kindness that they displayed during the course of the school day on a slip of paper. The slips are then displayed for everyone to see! Another positive interaction included faculty and staff bringing in their baby pictures to display. Any student or adult passing the display is challenged to identify the person. It has been enjoyed by all!

Additional responsibilities include supervising Homework Helper, attending class trips, coordinating the 8th Grade Tri Town Dance and conducting parent/teacher meetings on a regular basis.

When students come to me and say "thank you" it makes my job even more rewarding. Now, I want to thank everyone for making my first year in Haworth fulfilling, successful and enjoyable. I look forward to the 2008-2009 school year. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Wishing everyone a safe, pleasant and relaxing summer.