

2025-2026 Millsap Elementary Guidance Services

My role at MES as the counselor includes meeting our youngest Bulldogs' needs by aligning the Capturing Kids' Hearts philosophy with the Texas Model's four components: Guidance Curriculum, Responsive Services, Individual Student Planning, and System Support. My time is allocated to provide Direct Services (80%) and Indirect Services (20%) for students.

We are a Capturing Kids' Hearts campus. All homerooms come to see the counselor for Guidance Lessons, those lessons are directly related to our CKH character traits (empathy, self-direct, teamwork, responsibility, respect, kindness, courage, perseverance, and integrity). All lessons center around kindness, respect, responsibility and the character aspects that fall into each category, like how to be a good friend, how to handle different emotions, what it means to be part of a community, or how wonderful it is that we are all so different. Our goal is to help each student learn how to handle emotions that come with life and reach her/his full potential by learning the skills to be successful in school and life. Lessons include reading books, sharing stories, puppet shows, or social skills games. Students are encouraged to interact and have open discussions about each topic. Students are able to express ideas and concerns in a safe environment to ensure a better understanding of appropriate ways to interact with one another and handle unforeseen situations. We want every student to feel safe and welcome at school. In addition to Guidance Lessons, the counselor is available to students who may need to talk with someone about their lives. Students are free to talk about what may be going on and share their feelings. The counselor also works with small groups of students who may be experiencing similar situations, like dealing with grief/loss, anger or anxiety. They work together to learn strategies to deal with difficult emotions.

Each month, teachers select an exemplary student from each grade level that demonstrates the CKH character trait for that month. Those students are recognized during the morning assembly in front of their peers and teachers. Each "Top Dog" receives a certificate of recognition and a treat bag with bulldog swag items. All Top Dogs' pictures are displayed on the CKH V.I.P. bulletin board and published in the weekly school newsletter, The DAWG Dish.

MES participates in the national WATCH D.O.G.S. program ("Dads of Great Students.") Male role models are encouraged to spend time in classrooms, cafeteria, and playgrounds to build positive relationships with all students.

This is our second year partnering with Millsap Church to provide the Backpack Buddies Food Program to students that may be experiencing a food deficit over the weekends and extended school breaks. We include older siblings that attend MMS and MHS. Our average participation for last year was 33 MISD students.

All campuses in MISD continue to use, "I Hear You, I See You," a district-wide campaign that proactively addresses and tracks potential bully situations. It offers staff an opportunity to see patterns of unacceptable behaviors among peer relationships.

Please contact me at tblankenship@millsapisd.net if you have any questions.

MILLSAP MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM 2025 - 2026

Middle school students' biggest challenges include navigating complex social dynamics like peer pressure and changing friendships, coping with increased academic pressure and a more demanding workload, and developing their own identity while dealing with physical and emotional changes. Other significant challenges involve managing social media, mental health/anxiety, increased self-consciousness, and developing communication skills with a variety of new teachers. As the school counselor at Millsap Middle School, it is my job to help students navigate all of these areas of growth physically, emotionally and socially.

Some of my non-counseling duties include helping with the campus 504 program and the state testing program. Because of my part-time status, these duties make it difficult to actually meet the 80/20 rule, mandated by the State of Texas for school counselors. 80% of my time should be performing duties related to a comprehensive school counseling program, such as guidance, individual planning, and responsive services. The remaining 20% can be spent on other duties. Having worked in multiple districts across the state, I have never experienced a middle school or high school counselor that was truly able to meet the 80/20 rule.

The Millsap Middle School Counseling Program aligns with the Texas Model, meeting the needs of our students by utilizing the four components:

Guidance Curriculum

We are a Capturing Kid's Hearts campus. All classrooms should have the Social Contracts posted for each class period in their classrooms. We will be continuing the program throughout the school year.

We are also a XELLO campus. We will be implementing this multipurpose program as guidance lessons that help students learn more about themselves, their strengths and areas of needed growth in order to plan for the future.

Individual Student Planning

We support our students academically by providing organizational skills, goal setting and learning how to appropriately advocate for themselves.

After guidance lessons are completed in XELLO, students will have their individual accounts to learn and plan. The main purpose of this program is to provide individual preparation for the future, including college, military and work force initiatives.

Responsive Services

Much of my actual counseling time is spent supporting students through individual and small group counseling. Students are referred by teachers, parents and self-referred. Often these counseling sessions are in response to an upset student, friend issues, issues at home, issues in the classroom, etc.

System Support

It is an important part of the Millsap Middle School Counseling Program to establish, build and maintain relationships with outside agencies, as well as campus and district colleagues. We work with the Parker County Cooperative, Pecan Valley Center for Behavioral and Developmental Healthcare, as well as the Pure Truth Program. Pure Truth will be presented to our 8th graders in December. Pure Truth is a program geared at taking a stand for teen's health: mind, body and emotions.

I am grateful for my year 41 as a professional educator to have the opportunity to work with the administrators and staff of Millsap Middle School.

Susan L. Holloway

Millsap High School 2025–2026 Counselor Report

Mission Statement

The Millsap High School (MHS) Counseling Program's mission is to help every student succeed academically and grow personally. This is achieved by providing essential lessons (Guidance Curriculum), offering support when needed (Responsive Services), creating individual plans (Individual Planning), and collaborating with staff to enhance student success (System Support).

Direct Services

Guidance Curriculum

The classroom guidance lessons and resources provided by the counselor are designed in accordance with the guidance standards outlined in the Texas Model for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs and align with state requirements.

Current and planned lessons include: School & Post-Secondary Planning and Drug Prevention: Opioid and Fentanyl Awareness & Prevention (HB 3144 & HB 3908)

Individual Student Planning

Individual planning involves working directly with students to develop personalized academic and career plans that reflect their interests, strengths, and future goals. This process includes exploring career options, setting short- and long-term goals, and selecting appropriate courses and activities to support their pathways.

Responsive Services

Student well-being is a top priority at MHS. The counseling program provides a range of support services, including short-term counseling for social-emotional challenges, crisis intervention, referrals, and academic assistance.

The professional school counselor offers both individual and small-group sessions to meet specific developmental needs. Students can receive support for: managing stress and anxiety, building self-worth and resilience, navigating interpersonal relationships, addressing academic challenges

Indirect Services (on behalf of students)

System Support

The counselor collaborates with teachers, parents, administrators, and community partners to create a supportive learning environment. Partnerships with colleges—such as facilitating dual credit enrollment—demonstrate the commitment to expanding student opportunities.

System support includes consultation, collaboration, community outreach, and coordination of campus-wide initiatives.

Examples of services offered through the MHS Counseling Program include: dual credit opportunities, academic course and schedule planning, crisis intervention and referrals, credit checks and transcript evaluations, TSI testing coordination, social-emotional support, individual and small-group counseling, goal-setting and stress management resources, alcohol and drug abuse intervention, financial aid and scholarship guidance and Section 504 coordination.

Millsap High School Counseling Overview

High school students often face immense pressure to excel academically, meet graduation requirements, and plan for their futures—all while navigating relationships and personal challenges. The MHS Counseling Program focuses on academic success, prevention, and intervention, helping students overcome barriers to learning and achieve their post-secondary goals.

Millsap High School Counselor's Report

First 45 Days

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of Millsap ISD. I have felt very welcome, and the students have been amazing. Below is a summary work completed and the student's accomplishments during my first 45 days.

I. Testing

- **58** students have taken the **TSI (College Readiness Assessment)**
- **125** students have taken the **PSAT**
- **30** students have taken the **SAT**

Responsibilities include:

Publicizing test opportunities, managing the registration process, coordinating with the College Board, entering accommodations for 504 and Special Education students, and planning testing days (including room assignments and staff coordination).

II. Section 504 Coordination

- Currently serving approximately **47 students** with 504 services.

Responsibilities include:

Ensuring all eight teachers for each 504 student have an updated copy of accommodations, entering all relevant data into Empower, verifying 504 status for all incoming students, and immediately distributing accommodations as needed. I also coordinate and conduct evaluation and reevaluation meetings, gather teacher data, communicate with parents, and schedule meetings.

III. Senior Audits

Responsibilities include:

Reviewing each senior's transcript and schedule to verify they are on track to meet all graduation requirements.

IV. Dual Credit

- **49 students** are currently enrolled in **225** dual credit courses.

Responsibilities include:

Publicizing dual credit opportunities, testing potential students, aligning high school courses with Weatherford College, overseeing registration, and serving as the liaison between students and professors.

V. Suicide and Safety Assessments

- **6** student **risk assessments** have been completed.

Responsibilities include:

Conducting the assessments, contacting parents, collaborating with staff, developing safety plans, and distributing those plans to the appropriate personnel.

VI. Scholarships, Recommendation Letters, and College Applications

Responsibilities include:

Updating the counseling website with college and scholarship information, writing counselor recommendation letters for the Texas Common Application, and assisting students with college applications.