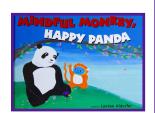
## September Classroom Lessons

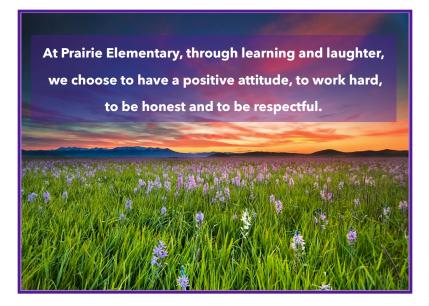
▶Getting to Know You **▶**Making Mistakes **▶**Understanding Feelings







# COUNSELOR'S CORNER



## Meet Ms. Brit

Hello! My name is Brit Doty and it is my pleasure to introduce myself as your child's new school counselor. I am very excited to be starting my new adventure in Waunakee at Prairie Elementary School! I'm looking forward to meeting the students, families and staff during the upcoming year. I would like to tell you a bit about myself and how I will be working with the Prairie school community.

I have been a school counselor since

2011 working for the past four years at two elementary schools in the School District of South Milwaukee. Prior to becoming a school counselor, I worked as a public health care researcher. My undergraduate degree is in nursing from the University of Arizona and I also hold a masters of public health degree from Dartmouth College. In May of 2011, I earned a masters degree in education with certification in school counseling from Marquette University.

My goal as a school counselor is to empower students to achieve academic success, as well as personal and social growth. I believe that all students possess intrinsic worth and are capable of personal growth and self-direction. It is my responsibility to assist each student in identifying and developing their unique skills, talents, and interests so that they are prepared to make positive choices. Students learn and achieve in school when they have strong relationships built on trust and respect with all school staff. I will foster these relationships in various ways throughout the year based on students' ages and needs.

"It is our choices... that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities."

J. K. Rowling

1

## Counseling Services

#### SCHOOL COUNSELING CURRICULUM

The school counseling curriculum guides all students in developing the life skills needed to positively interact in the home, academic and peer environments. The main way that I deliver the curriculum is by meeting with the students in each classroom every six days for thirty minutes. Some of the topic areas we will cover are understanding self and others; peer relationships, coping strategies and effective social skills; communication, problem-solving and conflict resolution; goal setting and decision-making; career awareness, exploration and planning as well as organizational, study and test-taking skills.

#### **RESPONSIVE SERVICES**

In systematic response to the identified needs of children, I counsel individuals and small groups of students toward social and emotional growth using a structured, goal-oriented counseling program. Counseling sessions may address the following areas: peer concerns, emotion regulation, family issues, attendance and/or behavior problems, and academic difficulties. To access counseling services, students can ask to speak with me or parents/guardians, teachers and other school staff may request I meet with a child.



#### SYSTEM SUPPORT

As a leader in the school community, I participate in activities that contribute to the effective operation of our school. At a broad level, I contribute to the school district and individual building goals for enhancing student learning by acting as an advocate for groups or individual students

### **Contact Information**

**Phone** 

(608) 849-2206

**▶**Email

britdoty@waunakee.k12.wi.us

**▶**Website

www.waunakee.k12.wi.us/faculty/bdoty

when system decisions are made. More directly, I consult with teachers, parents and staff regarding children's needs: acting as a resource person for faculty, staff and parents; assisting families with school-related problems; providing referrals for children and their parents to special programs, specialists and outside agencies when appropriate; facilitating conferences with teachers and/or parents; collaborating and coordinating with in-district and community-based specialists, such as school administrators, nurses, school psychologists, community- based psychologists, service agencies, and physicians and assuming an active role in

**▶**Computers

designing, implementing, monitoring and adjusting educational plans for individual students. If at any time you have questions or concerns about your child or the school counseling program, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to meeting and working with you this year.