

Dear Parents and Students:

As we begin the school year, the Counseling Department at McQuaid Jesuit would like to welcome back all of our students from what was hopefully a healthy, restful, and enriching summer. Additionally, we would like to extend a warm welcome to our incoming 6th grade students and our transfer students. We are glad that you have chosen McQuaid Jesuit and we look forward to working with all of you throughout the year.

The Counseling Department has undergone a few structural changes this summer, but our mission remains constant. We strive for excellence, and in doing so, we hope to provide our students with the resources and support that will ensure their educational needs are met. The philosophy of counseling at McQuaid Jesuit is based on the recognition of the dignity and worth of each student. Counseling is concerned with the individual, and his spiritual, educational, vocational, personal, and social needs. It is a continuous (grades 6-12) process within the school. We view counseling as a team effort which consists of counselors, administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, and students.

One of the defining characteristics of a Jesuit school is that it not only provides education, but formation. The hallmark of Jesuit education is *cura personalis*, the care and concern for the individual. Our department will be student-centered and will work diligently on behalf of our students.

As always, we are very interested in building relationships with both students and parents. Please contact us as soon as possible if you have a question or concern regarding your son, so we may address it swiftly and effectively. We welcome your e-mails, phone calls and in-person meetings.

Best regards,

John Serafine
Director of Student Counseling and College Advising