

## **Professional Disclosure Statement**

Kimberly A. Power  
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The intent of this statement is to inform the St. Francis Catholic School community of Mrs. Power's role as a school counseling intern to the students of our school and their families. This document provides Mrs. Power's educational background, relevant experience, confidentiality agreement, and the description of the counseling services she will provide while interning as a school counselor. If after reading this disclosure you find you still have questions, please use the contact information for Mrs. Power listed above, or contact school principal Julie Pritzel. **Please sign and return the bottom portion of page 3 of this document.**

### **Qualifications:**

Kimberly Power is an advanced counseling graduate student in the process of completing a master of arts in School Counseling from Eastern Michigan University with a projected graduation date of December 2017. She is studying to become endorsed as a nationally licensed professional counselor by training to work with individuals and groups of all ages, with a specific focus on the K-12 population. Prior to becoming a school counselor, Mrs. Power earned degrees in Children's Literature, Drama and Theatre for the Young, Communications, and Secondary Education. She has training in both individual and group counseling and has completed hours of practicum therapy in local public schools.

### **Description of Practice:**

Counseling is theory-based and is adherent to professional and ethical standards of care in working toward a common goal for the student. Because Mrs. Power is a practicing Catholic, a member in good standing with St. Francis of Assisi, and considers the Catholic teachings throughout practice, she brings a faith-focused view to ethical considerations that are faced by today's students. Mrs. Power will guide students to identify their presenting problem(s), work together to develop a plan of action, and then follow the student through the plan to help obtain the desired results. Her personal philosophy of counseling comes from her education and implementation of theory through the lens of our faith. She believes that counseling is a journey of self-discovery in which students can explore their lives and God-given talents, and ultimately find a way to affect positive change within our world. She also believes that the counselor-student relationship is founded with cornerstones of respect, sincerity, and communication.

### **Diversity Considerations:**

Mrs. Power has had extensive education in cultural competency, including dedicated courses and experiences. She is aware that differences in gender, sexual orientation, race, religion/spirituality, age, culture, ability or disability, socio-economic status, and location often influences how people view each other and themselves. She respects diversity and will not let differences stand in the way of counseling progress. She is committed to listening for understanding and establishing trusting relationships within

our rich school community. She believes cultural competency is based in respect and ongoing self-education of the world around us.

**Student Rights to Privacy and Confidentiality:**

Legal and ethical guidelines are followed within the counselor-student working alliance. Mrs. Power does not disclose any information discussed in student sessions unless: a.) a student is being harmed, b.) the student intends to harm someone else, or c.) the student intends to harm him/ herself. If abuse is a factor, Mrs. Power is a mandated reporter, required by law to report this information to the proper authorities.

It is important to note that Mrs. Power will be sharing scenarios without the use of names with her direct supervisor, Ms. Barbara Brown of Father Gabriel Richard High School. As Ms. Brown guides and mentors Mrs. Power at the conclusion of her program, discussing anonymous details of student situations and how to best approach them is necessary.

**The Effects of Counseling:**

During the counseling process, sometimes additional underlying issues come to the surface that were not considered prior to the onset of counseling. At times, these issues can be distressing. Dealing with unpleasant emotions and issues is a natural part of the counseling process and will be addressed as it occurs. Students typically derive a great number of positive effects as a result of the counseling relationship, limited only by time and by student motivation. Counseling is an effective tool in our schools that provides a relationship of ongoing positive regard to students.

**Supervision:**

As a culminating graduate student, Mrs. Power is supervised by a licensed professional. If you have any questions about supervision, you may contact her graduate supervisor, Dr. Diane Parfitt, at 734-487-0255, or her on-site supervisor Ms. Barbara Brown at Father Gabriel Richard High School at 734-662-0496.

**SCHOOL COUNSELING INFORMED CONSENT**  
**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

This fall, St. Francis will be offering individual and group counseling to students via a school counseling intern. Parents or school staff members may refer students for counseling, or students may request counseling. Counseling services are provided to ensure the success of each and every student. Group counseling and individual counseling aim to help students reach their potential. School counseling services encompass academic, career, and personal/social elements, with specific topics including:

- ▶ Study Skills                      ▶ Behavior                      ▶ Family                      ▶ Grief/Loss
- ▶ Self-esteem    ▶ Goal-setting    ▶ Social Skills    ▶ Friendship

Before beginning, it is necessary to obtain parent/guardian written permission for counseling. The bottom portion of this consent form can be returned to the office at the start of the school year.

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I understand that school counseling services are short-term and aimed at the more effective education and socialization of my student within our school community. I understand that these services are not intended as a substitute for diagnosis or treatment for any mental health disorder. The student-counselor relationship will respect confidentiality, with some possible exceptions. I understand that the school counselor may share need-to-know information with parents, the student's teacher, and/or administrators so that we may work cohesively as a support team. The counselor is required by law to share information with parents and/or other professionals in the event that the student is in danger of self-harm or harming others. The counselor is also required as a mandated reporter to share any suspicion of abuse with the proper authorities.

The counselor will make the student aware of these limits to confidentiality and will inform the student when sharing information with others. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School challenges students to discover God's gifts spiritually, intellectually, and socially within a community that nurtures and respects the unique individual.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the legal parent/guardian

of \_\_\_\_\_. I have read and understand the terms of the attached School Counseling Informed Consent and give my permission for my student(s) to receive school counseling services at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_