BHS Counselors



David Vallejo, M.A. david.vallejo@venturausd.org ext. 1015 Last names: "A-CEP" NCAA Advisor, AP Coordinator



Bertha Zaragoza, M.A. bertha.zaragoza@venturausd.org ext. 1037 Last names: "CEQ-GOL" EL Coordinator, VC Matriculation Liaison



Shannon Pelmear, M.A. shannon.pelmear@venturausd.org ext. 1009 Last names: "GOM-LEG" Career and College Night



Natasha Hillis, M.A. natasha.hillis@venturausd.org ext. 1023 Last names: "LEH-OLH" College Night Coordinator, AVID counselor



Monica Fierro, M.A. monica.fierro@venturausd.org ext. 1019 Last names: "OLi-SAM" Middle School Liaison



John Beattie, M.A.
john.beattie@venturausd.org ext. 1050
Last names: "SAN-Z"
Middle School Liaison, BARK coordinator



Joyce Cooper, M.A.
joyce.cooper@venturausd.org ext.1011
Student Assistance Program (SAP),
Support Groups
Health & Wellness Liaison



Natalie Debbas, M.A. natalie.debbas@venturausd.org ext. 2054 College & Career Center C.E.C (ROP), PSAT/PLAN/ASVAB Test Administrator Work Experience



Geneva Vegageneva.vega@venturausd.org ext. 1021
Office Assistant, Counseling Secretary

Did you know this about Buena?

- We offer 17 AP and 11 Honors courses
- We have an AVID program
- We have #21 AVID trained teachers
- We offer over 70 electives
- We offer Mock Trial, Science League, ASB and Renaissance programs and many more
- Buena Counselors conduct 3 college nights, a College Celebration day, and 2 NCAA presentations yearly
- SAP services include 6 outside community organizations volunteering time at Buena
- Buena offers free tutoring during BARK provided by the A-Team Peer Tutoring service
- Buena staff represent 13 states, 2 countries, and over 50 colleges/universities around the country
- Buena H.S. has 29 staff members that are alumni

Buena High School Counseling Department

5670 Telegraph Road Ventura, CA 93003 Phone: 805.289.1826 Fax: 805.289.1854 http://www.venturausd.org/buena/

Buena High School

A California Distinguished School

Counseling Department



Buena High School's counseling department adheres to the vision and mission of the Ventura Unified School District and the national standards set forth by the American School Counselor Association.

Counseling Services & Programs

Our Mission

The mission of the counseling department at Buena High school is to deliver a comprehensive counseling program based on the American School Counselor Association's (ASCA) National Model for school counseling. This comprehensive program provides all students with equitable opportunity for growth in the academic, college and career, and social/emotional domains and encourages the highest level of student achievement using developmentally appropriate curriculum and services. In partnership with students, families, teachers, administrators, and members of the community, we promote lifelong learning and guide students in becoming responsible, culturally sensitive and productive members of society.

Counseling Services

Academic Counseling

- Monitor student progress and graduation status
- Create 4 year plans for all students
- Identify and provide special services to at risk students
- Schedule and recommend appropriate course placement
- Coordinate Student Success Team meetings
- Coordinate counselor/parent conferences
- Provide information to students and parents regarding alternate placement programs
- Conduct registration and orientation for current and incoming students
- Provide information on tutoring services available
- Coordinate CEC (Career Education Center-- formally ROP)
 Coures
- Conduct 9th College/Career readiness seminar presentations

College & Career Counseling

- Conduct workshops on college admission applications and essay writing
- Teach College Admissions 101 during BARK advisory period
- Provide parent/student workshops and information sessions including: College Night, College Faire, Financial Aid Night, and NCAA Eligibility workshops
- Facilitate student career exploration utilizing the Naviance program and job shadowing
- Write recommendations for colleges, scholarships and special programs
- Identify students for specific scholarship programs; select candidates that meet specific scholarship expectations
- Offer Work Experience Education Course (Zero Period)
- Provide monthly counseling and scholarship newsletters

Personal/Social Counseling

- Provide various support groups through the Student
 Assistance Program (SAP) to assist students who are having
 difficulties because of one or more possible issues: grief and
 loss, living with an addict, divorce issues, social/relationship
 issues, alcohol/drug use, anger management, low selfesteem, etc.
- SAP Core team review
- Provide individual personal/social counseling
- Provide crisis counseling and conflict resolution
- Social/behavioral counseling in response to teacher referrals
- Provide information on school and community resources for students and families

Confidentiality

California Education Code Section 49602 is the foundation of the ethical practice for counselors. Counselors are obligated to protect privileged information received through confidential relationships with students, or the student's parent or guardian, and with teachers. This confidentiality must be maintained by the counselor except when there is a clear and present danger to the student or other persons or both. Also, counselors must keep current with and adhere to all laws, policies, and ethical standards pertaining to confidentiality.



For more information on the services and programs offered by the BHS Counseling Department, please contact your student's assigned counselor.