

"Only the educated are free"

—Epictetus

# The Counselors' Page

## Special points of interest:

- Dr. Pernia counsels students A-K.
- Mr. Wickens counsels students L-Z.
- Dr. Pernia earned her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.
- Mr. Wickens earned his J.D. from Wayne State University.
- Both counselors have visited Japan and presented "The Role of the Counselor" to the Detroit-area Japanese PTA.



## The Role of the Counselor Explained

The middle school counselor is a full-time staff member who helps all students. The counselor works with teachers, parents, and community resources to assist children. A student may visit the counselor as part of a self, teacher, parent or administrative referral. The counselor sees students individually or in groups, and oftentimes students are involved in the team meeting process.

Students may see counselors when they want to tell someone how they feel, there is something they have to share, they have an important decision to make, or they just want to say hello and talk about what's going on in their lives.

Also, programs such as the MEAP, Iowa/Cogat test, Midwest Talent Search and the peer mediation program are run by the counseling department. In addition, students meet with the counselor to schedule classes.

Conflict is inevitable. It's how we handle conflict that is important. Underlying the principle of peer mediation is the belief that conflict can be good and

## The Peer Mediation Program

it is important for the moral development of children, their acquisition of a sense of social order, and development of communicative ability (Hale, Farley-Lucas, and Tardy, 1996). Meads Mill is proud to have a peer mediation program that assists students when they have disputes. Students interested in settling their disputes may visit their counselor for more information.

## Important Dates:

January 22 End of first semester

March 26 End of 3rd Quarter

April 9-18 Spring Recess

April 27 Track vs. Hillside

June 10 Last day of school

## Career Exploration

Our library houses our career exploration kiosk. All students have an opportunity of viewing one hundred videos on various entry level careers produced by Wayne County RESA. Students may sign out the videos to view at home, or students can view a video at one of our three tv/vcr combinations found throughout the library. In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in career visitations throughout the metro area including a visit to 35th District Court in Plymouth.