



Agora's Counselor Corner

Middle School Guidance

Vol. 1 Fall 2018

2018-2019 QUARTER 1 NEWSLETTER



MEET THE SCHOOL COUNSELORS!



Mrs. Fallon Nicholas, M.Ed

Mrs. Nicholas is the school counselor for 7th & 8th grade student's with last name A-K. She has been at Agora since 2012. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Millersville University and later went on to receive her Master's Degree in School Counseling from West Chester University. Mrs. Nicholas is passionate about helping students reach their highest potential by supporting students' development in academics, career and social/emotional aspects. In addition to counseling, Mrs. Nicholas enjoys spending time with her family and mini labradoodle, Duffy, working on DIY projects and watching Philadelphia Sports (especially the EAGLES!) Mrs. Nicholas is excited about working with her students this year!

E-mail: Fallon Nicholas (Admin or Teacher) in 365



Ms. Lauren Stenson, M.Ed

Ms. Stenson is the school counselor for 7th & 8th grade student's with last name L-Z. She earned her graduate degree from West Chester University in School Counseling K-12 and her undergraduate degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in Child and Family Studies. She started at Agora in 2016. She is extremely excited to be a middle school counselor and is passionate in helping her students reach their personal and academic goals! In addition to counseling, Mrs. Stenson likes spending time with her family, running, traveling, and hanging out with her cat Cosmo.

E-mail: Lauren Stenson (Admin or Teacher) in 365

We are already through Quarter 1 of the school year! Quarter 1 progress report will be posted to your in your Sapphire Community Portal on November 14th. Quarter 1 grades are "In Progress".

Semester 1 grades (*average of quarter 1 and quarter 2*) will be finalized at the end of quarter 2- January 25, 2019. **Access Sapphire Community Portal through ClassLink!**

Forgot Credentials & Need Help Logging into your Classlink or Sapphire?

Agora Technical Support:

- Email: support@agora.org
- Web: support.agora.org
- Phone: 844-507-8233

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION CRITERIA:

In order to pass the school year, a student must pass at least 3 out of 4 core courses with a cumulative (average) final grade of a 60%-D or higher to be promoted to the next grade level. **Final grades are the average of Semester 1 and Semester 2 grades.**

Each semester you have the opportunity to achieve HONOR ROLL! A student must earn a 3.0 GPA, or "B" or higher in each main subject (Math, English, Science, History) at the end of each semester. Honor Roll Status will be posted on report cards and you will receive an Honor Roll Certificate recognizing your achievement!



IMPORTANT TIPS FOR DAILY SUCCESS:

- ✓ Check Agora's Website Often for Important Information/Updates and Resources: <https://agora.org/>
- ✓ Attend & Participate in classes daily
- ✓ Check Gradebook and monitor grades daily
- ✓ Check your e-mail a few times per day for important communications
- ✓ Attend PLT and Office Hours, reach out to your teachers for help in your classes
- ✓ Eat healthy, exercise & get plenty of sleep!

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAREER COURSE

Career Readiness and Career Education is required for all middle school students in the state of Pennsylvania per the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). Each school in the state is required to report to PDE on what career artifacts their students learned about.

- By the end of 8th grade, middle school students are to have a total of eight artifacts. This career course will achieve this requirement and students will have at least 8 artifacts by the end of 8th grade.
- **All middle school students will be REQUIRED to complete the Middle School Career Course except for Special Education Level 4 and Life Skills Students**
- Asynchronous students: After each rotation you will be required to listen to the recording and complete the assignments in the course.

Check your course progress!

- 8th graders: 2 out of 8 artifacts should be completed. Log-in to the MS Career Course to check that the first two assignments are completed.
- 7th graders: 1 out of 2 artifacts should be completed. Log-in to the MS Career Course to check that the first assignment is completed.

RED RIBBON WEEK

National Red Ribbon Week was October 23rd-October 31st, however it isn't too late to pledge to be drug free! So far 230 middle school students signed the pledge! Please click the survey link to "sign" the pledge and be a part of the creation of a drug-free Agora and America!

<https://goo.gl/forms/lgHxyqCDMLMgjff2>



ATTENTION STUDENTS!

The school counselors publish a newsletter at the end of every Quarter. For our next newsletter we want to hear from you! Answer these questions and you can be featured in our next newsletter! Use this link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/sAdVTOYS1Wk6pNTn1>

- 1) What is your favorite thing about Agora Cyber Charter School?
- 2) Who is your favorite teacher and why?



NAVIANCE STUDENT

Naviance | Student

We are currently introducing 7th & 8th grade students to Naviance Student. Students will be introduced to Naviance Student between 11/16/18-1/4/19 during a Friday PLT session by your school counselors. Naviance Student is a wonderful program used for Student College and Career Readiness. Students are instructed to complete the "Career Key" Assessment, which measures how similar you are to Holland's 6 types of personalities and identify jobs likely to be a good fit for you! This will be lesson 2 of the Career Course!

Naviance Student Website Log-In Page:

<http://student.naviance.com/agora>

Username: Your Student ID#

Password: Agora (capital A)

Access Naviance Student in your ClassLink!

GET INVOLVED IN A K12 CLUB

<http://www.k12.com/k12-student-clubs.html>

Click on the above link and follow the instructions to sign up for the club on your interest for your grade level. You will receive an email from K12 once you are enrolled. This is optional and is offered through K12 and not managed by Agora staff.

**If the club class time conflicts with your required class time, please attend your required class since required courses count towards your daily attendance.*

24/7 Hotline Numbers for Immediate Support:

National Suicide Prevention Line: 800-273-8255

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

<http://www.suicide.org/hotlines/pennsylvania-suicide-hotlines.html>

Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741 741

Teen-to-Teen Hotline (suicide or self-harm) 310-855-4673

TREVOR Project- 866-488-7386

Trans Lifeline - 877-565-8860

PA Bullying Consultation Line:

Call Toll Free: 1-866-716-0424