Here are a few signs and symptoms which can be barriers to learning:

- Withdrawing from family, friends, and/or activities
- Changing friends
- Unexplained physical injuries
- Feeling sad
- Talking about suicide
- Defying authority, both at home and school
- Acting aggressively
- Hitting
- Lying
- Declining grades
- Experimenting with alcohol or drugs
- Back-talking to staff

Are you concerned about your child's reaction to...?

- Recent death of a loved one
- Divorce or separation of parents
- Family relocation
- Bullying
- Relationship problem
- Other traumatic event

What is the S.A.P. policy regarding confidentiality?

Confidentiality between all parties involved in the S.A.P. process shall be respected and maintained in the best interest of the student and in accordance with all State and Federal laws protecting the privacy rights of parents and students.

How do I contact the S.A.P. team?

Dr. Melissa Tomcho, Elementary Principal
(814) 438-7611
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Stephanie McNulty, PK-12 School Counselor
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Phil Skindell, Truancy Officer
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Donna Watkins, School Nurse
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Heidi Martin, SAP Liaison
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(814) 438-7611

Union City Elementary School

What is the Student Assistance (SAP) program?

Facts for Families

What is the S.A.P. Referral Process?

What is the Student Assistance Program?

- The Student Assistance Program helps students overcome barriers to learning so that they achieve, remain at school, and advance.

- S.A.P. is an intervention program, not a treatment program that integrates a process of information gathering, and referral through a core team.

What is the Parents' Role?

Parent involvement strengthens the decision-making process about any behavior that is affecting the education, health, safety, or welfare of their child. Active parent support of the S.A.P. process promotes student success. Students are more likely to benefit from S.A.P. recommendations when parents are informed, involved, and supportive.

What the S.A.P. team can do for your child:

- Speech/Language Screenings
- Gifted Screenings
- Agency Referrals
- Academic Support
- Behavioral Support
- Truancy

Referral Process

STEP I:

Students are referred to S.A.P. by:

- School Administrator
- Teacher
- Other School Personnel (Counselor, Nurse, etc.)
- Fellow Students
- Self-referral
- Parent/Family

Step II:

All referrals to the S.A.P. are shared with the core team after parental consent is returned, and a formal information gathering process begins. Data is collected from various sources such as:

- Student Records (academic, school, attendance)
- Teachers (classroom behavior)
- Guidance Counselors (special areas of concern)
- School Nurse
- Other School Personnel

Step III:

Based on the information gathered, a determination is made by the core team as to the seriousness of the problem and the level of intervention that is needed. When an in-school screening has been indicated, one is set up with the S.A.P. liaison. Throughout the S.A.P. process, family and core team work together to develop the plan.

Step IV:

The core team and/or liaison then assists the student and the parents/family in developing an action plan. The action plan may consist of:

- In-school support services, and/or
- Further evaluation by the mental health system, drug and alcohol system, or both to determine the most appropriate level of care needed and/or
- Other professional services outside the school setting.

Step V:

The core team monitors the progress of the student to determine the extent of which the identified problems are being resolved through the action plan. If necessary, changes will be made to the action plan.