

**NORTHERN MIDDLE SCHOOL  
HELP TEAM**

**Administrators**

*Troy Sauer*

**District Social Worker**

*Theresa Shroyer*

**Counselors**

*Amelia Martire*

*Mark Tauzin*

**Nurse**

*Gretchen Strouse*

**Staff**

*Kathryn Wicker*

*Kristen Rucker*

*Amanda Wiser*

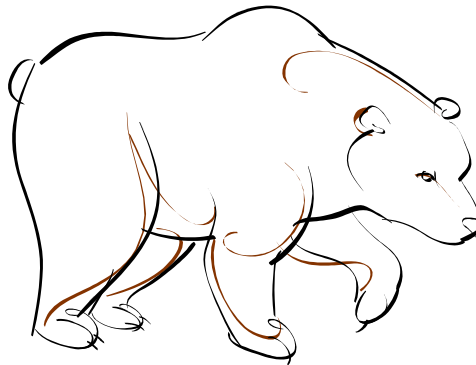
*Mary Hagen-  
Frederickson*

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**

**TrueNorth Wellness  
Services**

1195 Roosevelt Ave York,  
PA 17404  
(717) 843-0800

**York/Adams Mental  
Health-Intellectual  
Developmental Disabilities**  
261 N. Franklin Street  
Hanover, PA 17331  
(717) 632-8040



Northern Middle School

**NORTHERN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**STUDENT  
ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM**



**A Guide for  
Parents and Families**

Northern York County School District

## What is the Student Assistance Program?

Northern Middle School provides an intervention program for assisting students who may be dealing with difficult situations. Sometimes these situations create barriers to student success. Help is available for those students having difficulty.

The primary objective of the program is to ensure that Northern students receive this help in order for them to function successfully in school. A team of professionals identify students struggling with mental health and/or substance abuse issues.

In Pennsylvania, every middle school and high school must have a Student Assistance Program. In 1991, Pennsylvania passed Act 211 requiring each school district to establish and maintain a program to provide counseling and support services for students experiencing barriers to their education. School districts have met this requirement through the Student Assistance Program.



## Who is involved?

At the core of the Student Assistance Program are specifically trained professionals who make up the Student Assistance Team (HELP Team). This team of individuals participates in training approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and regularly conducted maintenance training. This team includes school staff and liaisons from community drug & alcohol and mental health agencies.

## Referral Process

The program uses a referral process. Anyone can refer a student experiencing difficulty with a situation to the HELP Team. Referral forms can be found on the school's webpage and the counselor's schoology pages. Students may be referred by teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, other students, or through self-referral. Any student who violates the district Drug and Alcohol Policy is required to participate in the Student Assistance Team process.

## What happens after a referral?

The HELP Team will review current academic performance and observable behavior reported by the student's teachers. Parents are consulted regarding the referral. Parent permission is required in order for a student to be involved in the program. After all necessary information is collected, the Team will make recommendations and may continue to provide support for the student and family. The HELP Team does not diagnose, or provide treatment. They may refer for screening or assessment for treatment.

## Some signs that may indicate need for HELP

- Sudden drop in grades
- Change in study habits
- Withdrawing from family, friends, and/or school
- Changing friends; no longer spending time with old friends
- Unexplained physical injuries
- Talking about harming self or others
- Recent death of loved one
- Divorce/separation of parents
- Acting aggressively
- Other traumatic event

If your child is having trouble in or out of school, the HELP Team can assist. Please contact a team member if you have questions or need assistance.

## H.E.L.P. Team Healthy Experiences with Life's Problems

### Confidentiality Notice:

All information concerning students referred to the program will be respected and maintained in the best interest of the student. That being said, any information that indicates abuse or danger to another individual will need to be reported.

### Northern Middle School

Phone: (717)432-8691 x1300  
Fax: (717)432-5889  
Email: [tsauer@northernnyork.org](mailto:tsauer@northernnyork.org)