

# The California Standards for the School Counseling Profession

## STANDARD 6

### **DEVELOP AS A PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

School counselors evaluate their professional contributions and actively engage in planning their professional development. School counselors establish professional goals, pursue opportunities to develop professional knowledge and skill, and participate in the extended professional community. School counselors follow professional codes of ethics and legal mandates while maintaining current knowledge of laws affecting the delivery of student services. School counselors contribute to school activities, promote school goals, and continually improve professional practice.

#### **6.1 Establish professional goals and pursue opportunities to improve**

- continue to learn and expand professional roles and responsibilities
- establish goals and identify opportunities for professional growth and development including knowledge about current trends in the field of school counseling and education
- use professional literature and other professional development opportunities including advanced certification and specialization to develop as a highly qualified school counseling professional
- benefit from and contribute to professional organizations to improve competence as a school counselor.
- solicit input from stakeholders to improve professional practices

#### **6.2 Model effective practices and continuous progress in school counseling**

- reflect on professional practices, analyze personal progress as a school counselor, and plan professional development
- identify successes and challenges and assess growth as a school counselor over time
- analyze counseling activities with regard to their impact on student learning

#### **6.3 Adhere to professional codes of ethics, legal mandates, and district policies**

- apply legal and ethical principles in the use of standardized tests and other methods of assessment
- follow laws and regulations pertaining to children and families such as child abuse and neglect reporting laws, client confidentiality, attendance and truancy laws, and federal and state mandates related to special education
- keep informed of changes in laws and regulations related to California public education and school district policy